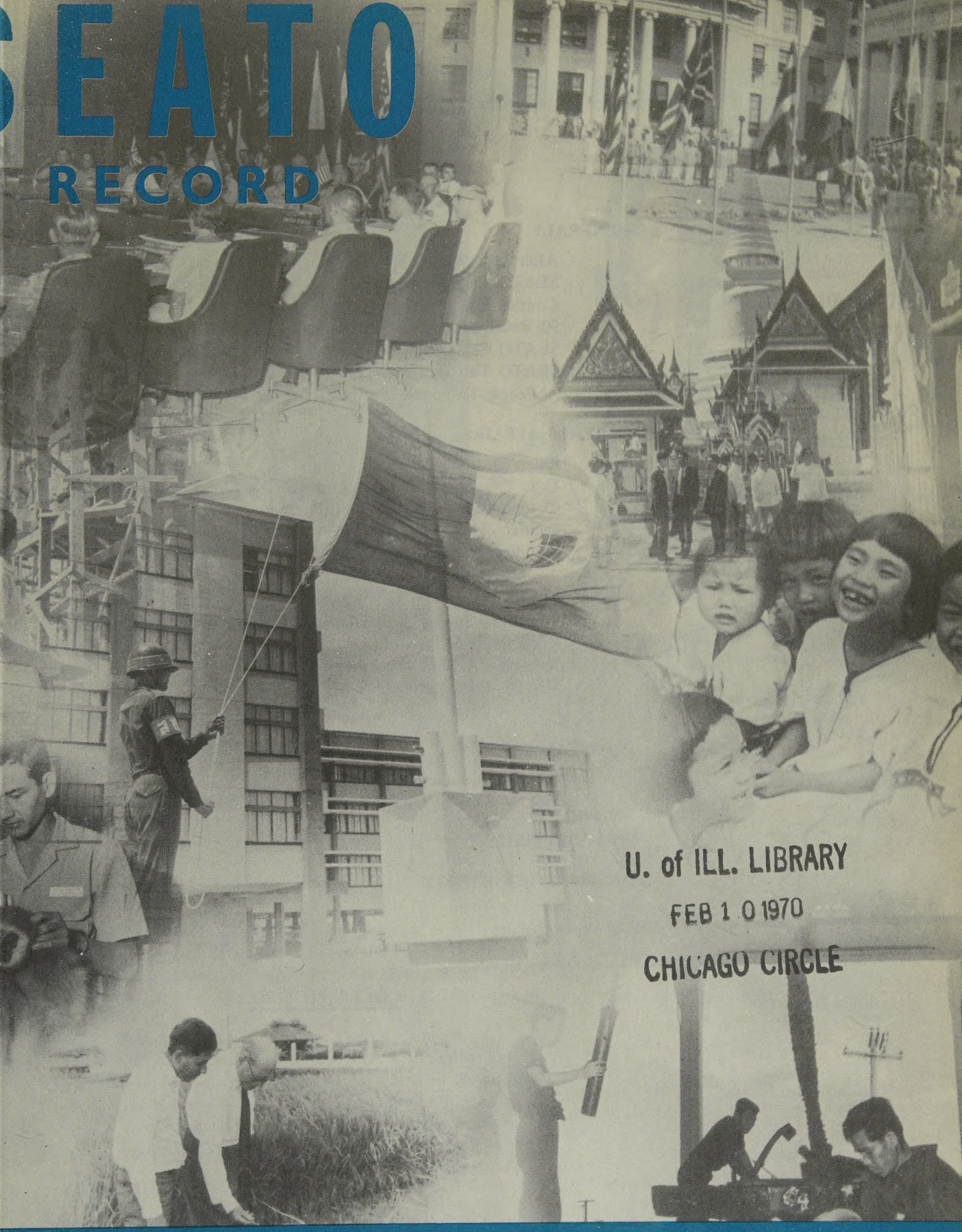
SEATO RECORD



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- 15TH ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES
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- THE SONG OF THE BOATMAN...

SEATO RECORD

SEATO RECORD features significant events in South-East Asia, as well as activities of the Organization and its member nations. It reports statements which reflect attitudes or policies related to SEATO's role as a defensive organization.

SEATO PROJECTS:

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PROJECT

●

SEATO REGIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE

●

SEATO VEHICLE REBUILD WORKSHOP

●

SEATO SKILLED LABOUR PROJECTS:

Thailand—initiated by SEATO

Military Technical Training School, Bangkok.
Teacher Development Centre, Bangkok.
Vocational Training Centres located in 19 provincial cities.

Pakistan—

SEATO Technical Training Centre, Dacca.
SEATO Technical Training Centre, Karachi.

Philippines—

SEATO Vocational Training Centre, Marikina.

●

SEATO MEDICAL PROJECTS:

Thailand—

SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Bangkok.
SEATO Clinical Research Centre, Bangkok.

Pakistan—

Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory, Dacca.

●

SEATO CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Under-Graduate Scholarships, Post Graduate Scholarships, Fellowships, Professorships.

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COVER PICTURE:

Planning a cover design to illustrate the 15th Anniversary of SEATO was no easy task. Selecting pictures, mounting them and photographing them in montage form was even less so. We would like to think, however, that the result appropriately illustrates our intended theme of 'SEATO Through the Years'.

"SEATO Record" is published six times a year. Inquiries from official a private organizations, educational institutions, libraries etc., are welcomed a should be addressed to the Public Information Office, SEATO Headquarte P.O. Box 517 Bangkok, Thailand.

AFTER HO, WHAT ?

WHITHER RUSSIA IN ASIA ?

LOOKING back over the long chronology of events, changes, and emerging trends that have occurred during the past 15 years of SEATO's existence, two probably stand out above most others from the point of view of being of direct concern to the Organization.

One, which occurred ironically enough almost simultaneously with SEATO's 15th Anniversary celebrations, was the death of North Vietnam's President Ho Chi Minh. The other, which constitutes a disturbing trend rather than an event as such, has been the gradual emergence of a strong Soviet naval presence East of Suez, coupled with the establishment in increasing numbers of aid and trade agreements with South-East Asian countries.

Moreover, with the situation in the region still very much in a state of flux; with the Paris Peace Talks still deadlocked; and with the war in Vietnam still seesawing between temporary lulls and minor escalations, it is not surprising that Ho Chi Minh's death has aroused a rash of speculation in international diplomatic circles.

There have been those who have seen his death as a good omen and those who have tended to adopt the attitude 'it is better the devil you know than the devil you don't'; in other words, his successor might well be far more belligerent, aggressive and reckless than was "Uncle Ho" himself—though it would be difficult to imagine anyone pursuing his aims with a more fanatical zeal than the late President despite deceptive mannerisms suggesting frailty, humility and gentleness.

Yet, there can be no denying that in his earlier role of nationalist and advocate of unity Ho gathered around him many faithful and sincere followers both in the South of Vietnam as well as the North. As a father figure, as a rallying point for patriotic fervour, he was unrivalled by anybody emerging as a leader in the South. Only when he decided to achieve unity by trying to impose Hanoi's rule on the

SEATO can only wait and see

South through the ruthless use of armed force did he lose favour with many of those who loyally supported him.

Although it is too early yet to be able to assess the long-term effect of his death upon the future of Vietnam in particular, and the region in general, any hopes that dramatic changes might occur for the better, even in the short-run, have already been rudely dashed.

Meanwhile, the selection of Ton Duc Thang, a shaky eight-one year-old veteran party member of the Vietnam Workers Party, as President hardly before the dust had time to settle over Ho's grave was clearly a stop-gap measure to allow for a breathing space so that the real men of power behind the scenes could pursue their political manoeuvrings with a minimum of interference or publicity—namely Le Duan, First Secretary of the Vietnam Workers Party which is the Communist Party of North Vietnam; Truong Chinh, Chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee; and Pham Van Dong, the North Vietnamese Premier.

FIGUREHEADS

It can be assumed, therefore, that both the newly-appointed President and the Vice-President, Nguyen Luong Bang, are merely figureheads. The fact that both are believed to have pro-Soviet leanings seems no real justification for thinking that North Vietnam is likely to favour Russia rather than China as a benefactor—otherwise why a new economic aid agreement recently signed with Peking so swiftly upon the heels of Ho's death?—an event that would certainly contradict any belief at present that the Government is likely to swing towards Moscow.

Conversely, it is equally likely that similar trade agreements are imminent with the Moscow camp if only for the reason that China is not in a sufficiently strong economic position to supply all of hard-pressed North Vietnam's needs, whether it be military hardware or other forms of economic aid. There may be other reasons too, but it is doubtful whether President Thang's pro-Soviet leanings is one of them. They should not be misconstrued as having any definite bearing on North Vietnam's official policy towards Moscow. Any more than should the fact that the new Vice-President holds similar pro-Soviet views. Their caretaker status alone—Thang is not even in the Politiburo, but merely a humble member of the party's Central Committee without any official status or leverage—is a fairly clear indication that the political infighting behind the scenes is still going on.

Moreover, it should not for one moment be thought that Moscow and Peking will remain idle by-standers, watching from the wings. They will both do everything in their power short of open intervention to ensure that their own particular 'follower' will finally be elected as the new President of the country and Chairman of the North Vietnam Communist Party. For while Pham Van Dong is considered pro-Soviet and therefore, the political 'darling' of Moscow, Truong Chinh, who holds a strong position as Chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee is considered fanatically pro-Chinese and, therefore, the 'darling' of Peking.

As far as Le Duan is concerned, he is largely an unknown factor with a history of blowing with the wind, so to speak. He has fluctuated between pro-Soviet and pro-Chinese views though at present he would appear to be leaning towards the latter. Consequently, whether he finally decides to bend towards Moscow or to accede to the overtures of Peking is still anybody's guess. It may even be that he will turn neutral.

As one newspaper headline aptly asked: "After Ho, Who?". But equally pertinent is still the question "After Ho, What?".

VARGAS ON HO'S DEATH

COMMENTING on the death of President Ho Chi Minh, the Secretary-General of SEATO, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas, said he could only hope that the resulting change of leadership would be for the better from the point of view of the non-Communist world. At the moment, however, there were little grounds to sustain such hopes.

General Vargas said the existing policy makers who had worked under Ho would no doubt pursue similar policies to those in the past. In fact, in the short term the death of Ho might lead to closing of the ranks in the upper levels of North Vietnam's leadership.

Policy makers would be likely to take the line that they must support the policies laid down by the late President Ho and in this way make him a martyr to the Communist cause. From a long term point of view a power struggle was predictable between rival factions in the North Vietnam leadership. These factions would split between those who leaned to pro-Soviet policies and those who leaned towards pro-Peking policies.

The long term effect of President Ho's death would depend on which group won the power struggle. It was difficult to make any predictions at this early stage, but it seemed that the pro-Peking faction were at present in the majority. If they were to emerge in control of North Vietnam's policies, this could lead to a hardening of North Vietnam's attitude in its war of Communist aggression.

SEATO DAY MESSAGES

SEATO Day this year marked the 15th anniversary of the Organization and the following messages were received on this occasion from Foreign Ministers of member countries as members of the SEATO Council.

AUSTRALIA

Gordon Freeth, Australian Minister For External Affairs

THE South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty signed in Manila in 1954 is one of the cornerstones of Australia's policy to promote peaceful co-operation, stability and security in South-East Asia. It is worth recalling this today—the 15th Anniversary of the signing of that Treaty and the creation of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization or, as it is more generally called, SEATO.

Since that time SEATO members have actively pursued the objectives laid down in the Treaty—namely the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples; the strengthening of peace and freedom; the upholding of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law; and the promotion of the economic well-being and development of all peoples in the Treaty Area. Australia, a member of the region, has contributed fully to these objectives and continues to value SEATO as an important instrument of collective security in South-East Asia.

We recognize that SEATO does not set out to provide the answers to all the problems facing South-East Asia. But it does provide an essential ingredient —a firm security arrangement. With peace and security, planning and action and co-operation for development in the region can go forward in confidence and without interference. Not all co-operation is done under SEATO's auspices. Nor need it be. Other organizations' contacts have their own constructive and indispensable part in the welcome growth of co-operation among the countries of the region.

I see a continuing role for SEATO in collective security in South-East Asia. We need to be able to respond soberly and effectively to the security problems created by externally inspired insurgency within the region. Here, SEATO can make a real contribution both in the military planning field and on the civil side.

The countries of the region today look hopefully towards a fair settlement of the conflict in South Vietnam. I sincerely hope that long before the end of the year ahead the other side will respond constructively to the reasonable and balanced proposals put forward by the allied side, and enable the establishment of a just and lasting settlement.

To assist in the development and improvement of the economic well-being amongst our SEATO allies, Australia last year provided well over $2 million of assistance in many fields, from experts and equipment for a motor mechanics training centre in Thailand to the supply of survey vessels to the Philippines. Our total contributions since the inception of our separate SEATO Aid programme is now running close to some $21,400,000. We will continue to provide assistance of a similar nature in the future.

I congratulate SEATO on its 15th Anniversary and the Secretary-General and his staff for their service to SEATO's purposes. I re-affirm that Australia will continue the firm support it has given SEATO in the last fifteen years.

NEW ZEALAND

Keith Holyoake, Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs, New Zealand

ON the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the signing of the Manila Treaty, I am pleased to reaffirm New Zealand's continued support for the principles of collective security and for the work of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization. New Zealand values greatly the opportunity to contribute to the security and stability of South-East Asia through its participation in SEATO.

In South Vietnam, New Zealand is proud to be allied with other SEATO members in the struggle to combat aggression from North Vietnam and to promote the right of the people of South Vietnam to fashion their own way of life without fear of coercion and intimidation.

Regrettably the end of the conflict there is not yet in sight but it is my sincere hope that the Communist side will respond in a constructive manner to the proposals that have been put forward at the Paris talks and that an honourable and enduring peace settlement will be achieved.

Elsewhere in the region, the Manila Treaty has continued to act as a deterrent to Communist aggression and has helped to create the conditions of security necessary for economic development and social progress. At its meeting in Bangkok in May this year the SEATO Council noted that encouraging progress had been made in economic and social fields and that this progress had been achieved largely by the individual efforts of the countries of the region and by the further strengthening of regional co-operation. This growth of regional co-operation in Asia which offers all nations the chance to develop and prosper together provides the basis for future stability.

During the past 15 years there have been many changes within the Treaty Area. Our alliance has shown that it is able to adapt its resources to meet new situations and changing circumstances. Flexibility is one of its greatest assets. The main threat to stability within the Treaty Area today is posed not so much by direct and overt aggression but by Communist-inspired subversion and insurgency.

The danger is less easily identifiable but it is nevertheless real, and urgent and determined counter-measures are required. There is therefore a clear need for SEATO members to stand together and ensure that the present trend towards progress and stability is not reversed. I am confident that SEATO will be able to meet this challenge and will succeed in helping member countries to preserve their integrity.

Today, 8 September, is SEATO Day and I have great pleasure in extending the good wishes of the Government and people of New Zealand to the Secretary-General of SEATO, His Excellency General Vargas, and to all SEATO member countries.

PHILIPPINES

Carlos P. Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, The Philippines

ANNIVERSARIES should not be occasions for reminiscence. They should be for looking ahead, for pledges to continue the work already done and forge ahead.

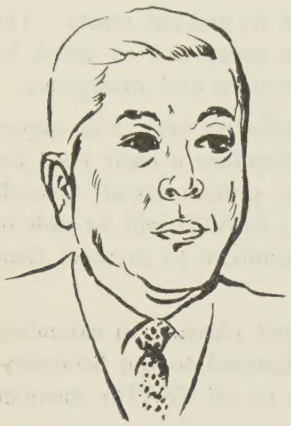
As we celebrate the 15th Anniversary of SEATO, I recall our proceedings in the 14th SEATO Ministerial Conference in Bangkok held last May. There we saw the unanimity among the member State in pledging the efforts to continue strengthening SEATO.

And it is with pleasure that I recall that the Philippines took an active part in proposing that a new image be given SEATO in order that our brother Asians, wary of joining it because of its military nuances, can be encouraged to be with us in a regional grouping that has no other objective but to maintain peace in our area.

Among the proposals made by the Philippines accepted in the final communique was the organization of a youth corps among Asian young men and young women to involve the youth in this effort of bringing together...closer together...the members of SEATO and others in our region that may want to join us.

The future lies ahead for Asia in a manner that compels us to have regional groupings that will insure our security and our progress. It is, therefore, important that today when we celebrate the 15th Anniversary of SEATO, we should determine to try and give it a new look...where the economic and cultural sides will be further strengthened...and increase its versatility in order that its usefulness and effectiveness may be of greater service to the Asian nations of which we are one.

THAILAND



Thanat Khoman, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

FIFTEEN years ago to-day the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty was signed in Manila. The object was, and still is, to endow this strategic region and its peoples with peace and security in the face of the mounting external threats of aggression.

Throughout these past years, the member countries have, with varying degrees of determination and success, sought to maintain the commitment voluntarily undertaken in 1954.

There have been many set-backs, but the independence of the countries in the region has been preserved despite repeated and relentless assaults on their free and sovereign existence.

In this respect, the Treaty also represents a useful framework for co-operation between countries within the region and those outside powers which have historic interests to safeguard in the region, and constitutes therefore a meeting ground which can provide more significant benefits for the participants both from far and near.

It is a sad commentary on contemporary Asian life that the threats still remain essentially from the same sources and are even becoming more invidious as time goes by, for it shows that the outmoded concepts of domination and subjection have not been completely replaced by the new doctrine of co-operation and partnership in this part of the world.

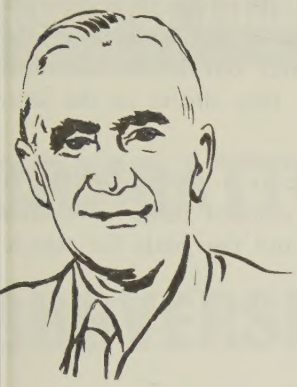
Sacrifices have been, and are being, made to meet the threats while doubts and confusion have been sown and propagated not only by our adversary but also by some unenlightened elements in friendly ranks.

However, true men of good-will have not lost their courage, and despair has not beclouded their visions. Perhaps this 15th Anniversary of the Treaty is an opportune time to strengthen our resolve to persevere in our worthwhile tasks to serve our common interests and the cause of upholding freedom and the dignity of free men.

Thailand, for its part, has not shirked and will never shirk its responsibilities or allow its will to weaken, for it realizes that the cost of any weakness at this point would be borne by future generations and our guilt might never be expiated in the eyes of history. We shall accordingly remain steadfast in our resolution and continue to work together with those who still believe in the same cause.

On this anniversary day I would like, on behalf of the Royal Thai Government and on my own behalf, to convey our sincere felicitations to the South-East Asia Treaty Organization, its able Secretary-General and his dedicated collaborators, as well as our good wishes for the welfare of all member nations.

NITED KINGDOM



Michael Stewart, Secretary of State For Foreign Affairs, the United Kingdom

AS SEATO approaches its 15th Anniversary, it gives me very great pleasure to congratulate the Organization on this achievement and to offer my personal wishes for its continuing success in the future.

The past year has seen many changes in the situation in South-East Asia; no doubt more lie ahead. Change is inevitable, but SEATO has shown that it is able to adapt itself to change and to meet the needs of the times. The United Kingdom will continue to play an active part in the Organization, particularly in such priority tasks as the encouragement of economic and social development, which are the safest bulwarks against externally-inspired subversion.

We also welcome SEATO's role in promoting co-operation between the countries of the region themselves, since regional co-operation is the key to South-East Asia's future prosperity and security. My greetings also go to the Secretary-General and his devoted staff with my personal thanks and those of my Government for their continuing efforts to guide our Organization's activities.

NITED STATES

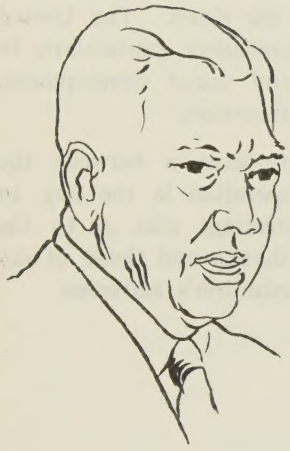
William P. Rogers, Secretary of State, the United States

IT is now 15 years since the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty was signed in Manila. The intervening years have seen periods of trouble and times of hope and progress. From its inception SEATO has occupied a prominent place in the growth and development of the area it serves. It therefore gives me great pleasure to send my greetings and those of President Nixon to SEATO, to Secretary-General Vargas, and to the member countries and their leaders on this anniversary.

The past year has not been an easy one. Yet we do see progress on the road toward peace. The final communique of the 14th SEATO Council Meeting in Bangkok this spring singled out the efforts of the United States and the Republic of Vietnam, in close consultation with our allies, to bring about a just and peaceful solution to the Vietnam conflict as the most significant development of the year. Since that SEATO meeting we have gone even further in our efforts to achieve peace. Now we wait for the other side to demonstrate that it too desires peace.

In our search for peace we have not lost sight of the fact that the only true peace is one that brings with it a sense of security. In order to achieve such a peace the United States stands ready to meet its share of the burdens involved in co-operation with its allies and friends. We will honour our commitments and we will work with all who are prepared to exert their best efforts in the search for peace.

SEATO has over the years demonstrated its value as a security shield and has served as a catalyst in economic, humanitarian, and cultural fields. We intend to continue our support and encouragement of SEATO and the goals for which it stands.



Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas, Secretary General of SEATO

EACH year, I look hopefully forward to the good time when I may be able to say that our goals are on the way to being achieved. Unhappily, the past year has given little encouragement for such hope. We are witnessing the continuing struggle for freedom of those around us, a struggle in which thousands are still giving up their lives. As the peace talks in Paris continue, the tragic war in Vietnam goes on and, elsewhere in the region, a state of general uneasiness persists. And all the while, the aggressive bully of communism in all its guises stands over us, ever scheming, ever threatening.

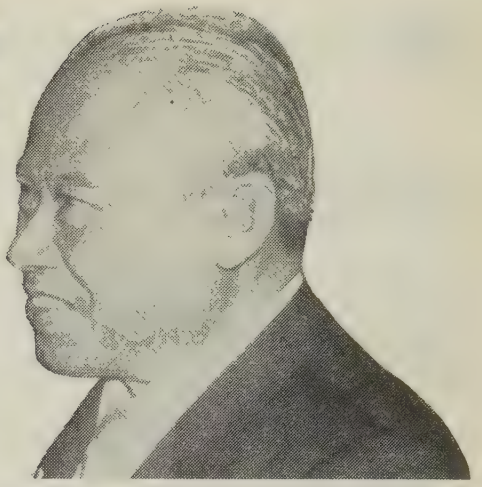
The problems we face remain complex but the approaches become more subtle. It is not enough to be aware of the armed threat so that we might counter it by military means. We need continuously to be wary of the wolf that approaches in sheep's clothing. We must continue with our efforts to render such approaches ineffective. To that end, we are making a great effort to create conditions of social well-being and economic growth to remove causes of unrest which render people vulnerable. I am happy to say that over the past year SEATO has been associated with several projects of this nature in the field of education, agricultural and medical research and community development.

We must not allow ourselves to become discouraged for therein lies a weakness. Every achievement, however small, represents a victory. We must draw strength from our alliance and, so long as there remains a threat to the liberty and security of the people in this region, we can meet it through our co-operative efforts.

In this spirit, I am happy on the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the founding of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization to extend my greetings to the member countries of SEATO. I hope that we may meet with success, as we continue to work together towards the fulfillment of our aims: a free, prosperous and peaceful life for the people of South-East Asia.

Premier Thanom speaks to the nation

COMBATTING SUBVERSION THE SEATO WAY



IN a television broadcast to the nation on SEATO Day, Thailand's Prime Minister, Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, said the Organization continues to provide an effective framework for mutual co-operation in deterring open aggression and for supporting individual national action against subversion and terrorist activities.

Thailand's main purpose in joining SEATO, he Prime Minister said, was to strengthen her efforts o protect her freedom and sovereignty from the threat f aggression. "SEATO provides, and continues to rovide, the framework for mutual co-operation in eterring open aggression and the support for indiidual national action in countering subversion and errorist activities. The goal of all this is to bring bout peace and security to the area for the benefit f all countries concerned."

Fifteen years had passed since SEATO was ormed, he said, and had continued to exist throughout nese years because in the first place the threat to ne area had never been eliminated. "In fact it has aken on new guises, more devious, more pernicious than ver before," the Prime Minister said.

"The second reason for SEATO's continued existence is that there is no better instrument to take its place for the purpose we are discussing." It was not for any aggressive aim that Thailand was a member of SEATO, said Premier Thanom. "Indeed we look forward to the day when the need that has created this defensive alliance will have been resolved forever, when the peoples of this area will have worked out a way to live side by side in peace, mutually helping one another for the progress of all."

Although a collective defence treaty was a good thing to have "in times like these," there was no room for complacency. "It is after all only a means by which assistance through co-operation is made possible to supplement our own efforts, which still constitute the main source of our strength. In the words of the Lord Buddha: 'Thou hath thyself to rely on.' Moreover, the efficacy of any treaty at any given time depends on the readiness of its signatories to honour their commitments. So while appreciating the intention of others to co-operate with us for mutual benefit, we must continue to develop our own spiritual and material strength so as to increase our capability of self-defence," the Prime Minister added. Thailand would continue to seek ways of co-operating with those who shared her destiny in this part of the world in order to build up unity and progress for the whole region, so that the nation may be preserved and the happiness of future generations ensured.

"On the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of SEATO, I would like to reaffirm on behalf of His Majesty's Government and the Thai people our support of the Organization, and to reiterate our readiness to co-operate with others in maintaining peace and security in South-East Asia," the Prime Minister said.

90 RECEIVE LONG SERVICE AWARDS

— and a word of praise from Gen. Vargas

ON September 8, the 15th Anniversary of SEATO, more than 90 members of the staff, including staff of the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory and the Military Technical Training School, received long service awards and certificates at a special ceremony held at Headquarters in Bangkok.

The Secretary-General of SEATO speaking at the presentation ceremony, congratulated those who received awards for the services they had rendered to the Organization in the pursuance of its missions and objectives.

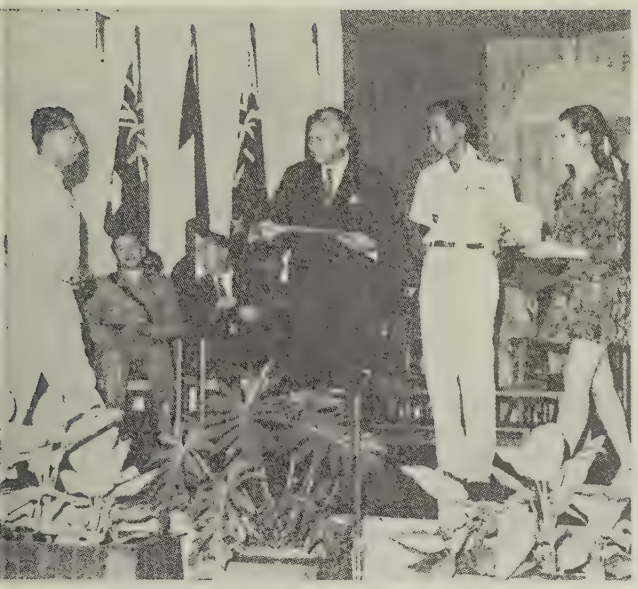
"Our Organization has been established," he said, "to deter aggression not only within the territories of member nations but also within the Treaty Area as a whole, in order to establish a continuing and lasting peace and security as well as to further the welfare and well-being of the people."

The services that SEATO staff and those of its varied projects had rendered were indeed services for freedom, General Vargas said. "I should like to think that today is more than just the observance of a SEATO Anniversary, it is more than just the holding of another ceremony as we are holding now," he added. "The significance should indeed go well beyond that and I should like to think that all of us who have rendered services to the Organization should glean satisfaction from the role we have played and contributed to the overall efforts of our Organization in the enhancement of peace and security in this region."

General Vargas added that SEATO's 15th Anniversary Day should also serve as a reminder for the staff to take stock of what the Organization has contributed during its 15th year of existence.

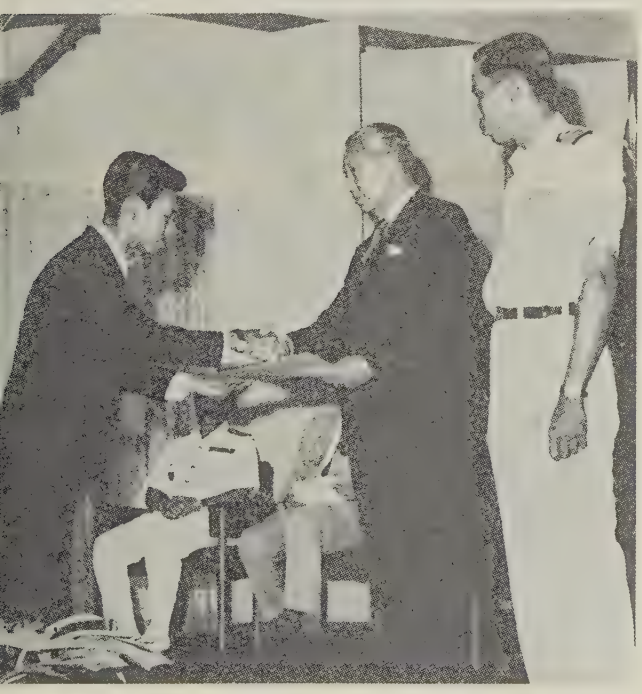
The Council Members in their SEATO Day messages had given not only a confirmation of the commitments they had under the Treaty, but also a reaffirmation of their faith in the effectiveness of the Organization as a deterrent against would be aggressors in this part of the world. "I would like to think," General Vargas added, "that we, as members of a team, should regard such messages as a further challenge to our capacity to do even more than we have done to date."

The Acting Chief of the Military Planning Office, Captain Chob Sirodom, said that members of the staff were proud that in its 15 years of existence SEATO had contributed in great measure to the collective security within the Treaty Area, and had fulfilled its role as a stabilizing factor in South-East Asia.



Mr. Onn Sri-ngoen, SEATO Radio/TV Production Assistant, walks up to receive his long-service award from General Vargas in the picture above.

Mr. Onn has been with SEATO for five years and is responsible for all radio programmes in the Thai language, and on the right, Mrs. Julie Ruchirawongs of the SEATO Public Information Office.



Above: Mr. Dusnee Vasudhara of the Office of Cultural and Economic Affairs, another recipient of a SEATO Silver Badge and Certificate for five years service with the Organization.

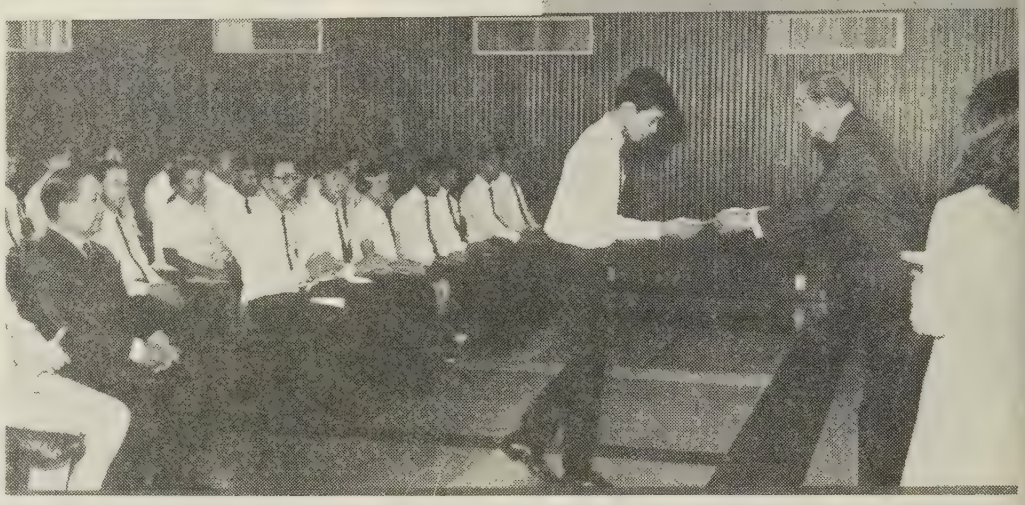
Receiving the award in the picture below after five years with SEATO is Mrs. Ploenchit Kittinand of the Office of the Secretary-General.

Next to General Vargas is Captain Chop Sirodom, Acting Chief, SEATO Military Planning Office.

Below: Professor Svasti Daengsavang, Consultant to the Director, US Component, SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, receiving his long-service certificate from Gen. Vargas.

SEATO SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS UP BY $2,000

THE VALUE OF SEATO UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS WAS RAISED THIS YEAR FROM $4,000 TO $6,000 WITH A CORRESPONDING INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS FROM 25 TO 40.

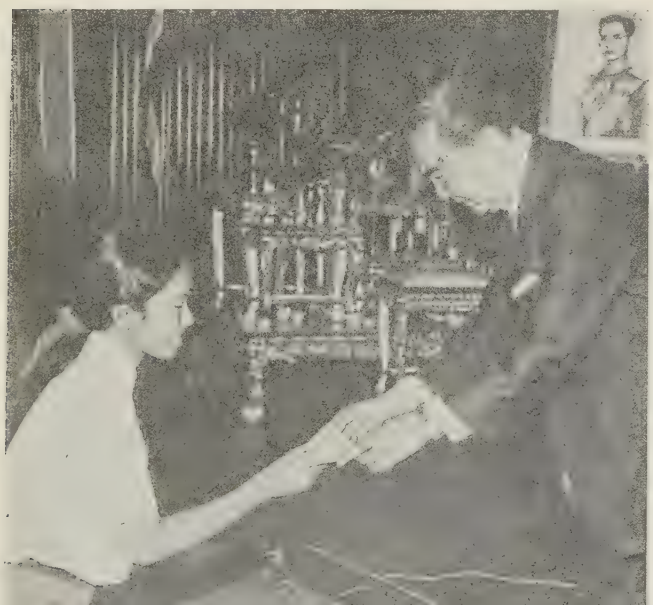


One of the 40 students who this year were given undergraduate scholarships is pictured being presented with his cash award by Prince Wan at the National Education Council.

ONE of the events which always takes place on SEATO Day, 8 September each year, is the presentation of SEATO undergraduate scholarship awards to final-year university students of Thailand, the Philippines and Pakistan. It has been an annual event since 1959, the first year which the undergraduate scholarship scheme went into effect following other SEATO cultural activities such as the Research Fellowship and the Travelling Lectureship programmes. This year there was a sharp rise in the number of awardees—from 25 to 40 as the result of increases in the amount of scholarship funds.

The original amount given in 1959 was $2,000 to each of the three countries concerned. This was increased to $3,000 in 1962, and to $4,000 in 1964. This year it was raised to $6,000.

Last year's 25 students received the SEATO undergraduate scholarships (to complete their university education in their own country, as distinguished from the SEATO post-graduate scholarships enabling awardees to further their study abroad).



This year, through the expanded programme, the 40 scholarship awardees each received $150 or about 3,000 baht. The presentation of the awards was held at the National Education Council and as in previous years, was presided over by H.R.H. Prince Wan Waithayakorn.

The 40 students selected by the national committee for the SEATO undergraduate scholarship awards represent Thailand's College of Education and its seven universities: Kasetsart, Khon Kaen, Chulalongkorn, Chaing Mai, Thammasart, Mahidol, and Silpakorn.

A young girl student is pictured here receiving her scholarship award from Prince Wan.

Essay contest...

SEATO 'FAN' IS THIRD TIME WINNER

MR. Arun Iam-ek, Headmaster of Wat Silakhantharam School in the province of Angthong, has an abiding interest in SEATO and its activities and, whenever he has been able to afford the time, has always participated in the annual SEATO Essay Contest. He has won two prizes over the past year, a First and a Second in the Open Category. His entry in this year's contest once again has earned him a first prize and congratulations in the picture above, by Mr. Melvin Taylor, Acting Director of the SEATO Public Information Office.

His Serene Highness Prince Jotisi Devakul, SEATO Council Representative of Thailand, presenting First Prize in the student category to Miss Tuenchai Kunjara Na Ayudhya of Wat Absorn Sawan School, Dhonburi, at the Essay Award ceremony.

SEATO's most constructive critics have always been found among the ranks of its friends, a fact which is no less encouraging for being obvious. Mr. Arun describes himself as a staunch friend of SEATO and a firm believer in its continued existence and usefulness. The theme set by the Thai National Committee for this year's contest is very much to his liking: ways in which SEATO may be improved so as to increase its effectiveness. Mr. Arun's recommendations, while not set out in great detail, cover the entire range of SEATO's activities.

He praises SEATO projects already in existence but his main thesis is that the Organization could and ought to do more within the framework afforded by these projects, or by expanding them so as to be in a position to help solve more problems. For instance, while pointing out the valuable work being carried out under the SEATO Medical Research programme, especially the accomplishments of the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory at Dacca, he is by no means fully satisfied and would like to see SEATO play an even more active part in helping to provide this region with more hospitals, physicians and nurses.

Running through his whole argument is an awareness of the ever-increasing Communist threat in all its diversified forms.

A PEOPLE TO PEOPLE PROJECT

By
JOHN HAMILTON

BEHIND the glass fronted facade of a moderate-sized office block in one of Manila's bustling main streets chaos reigns—or at least appears to.

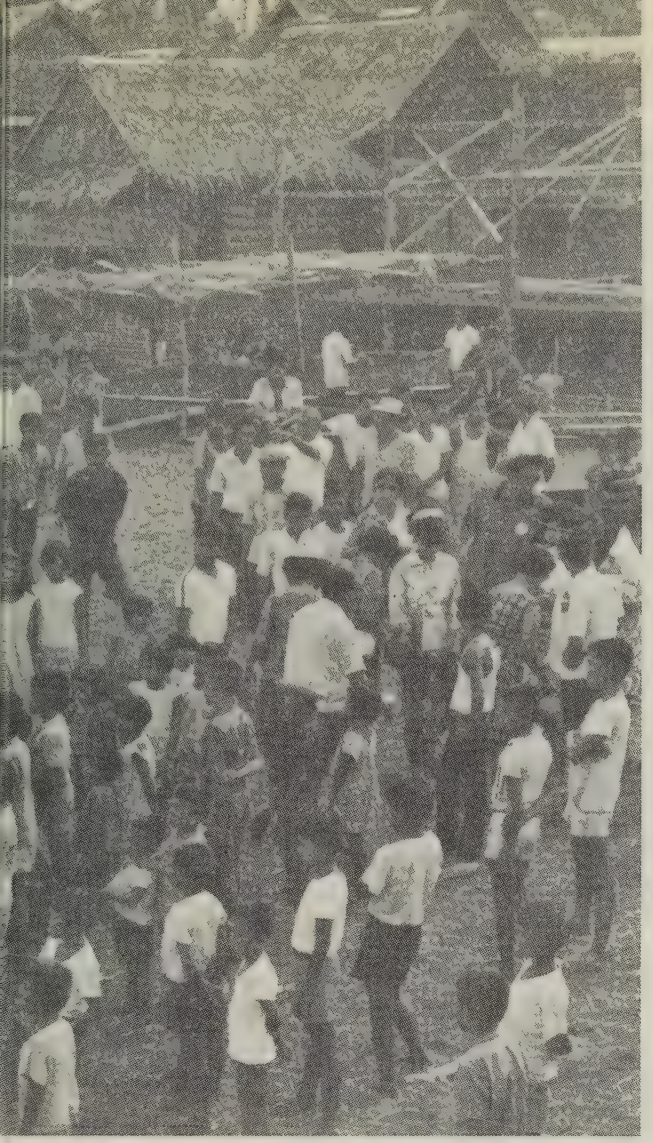
A constant stream of people coming and going at all hours of the day, jamming and jostling each other in a rabbit warren of corridors and cubicles; shouting, gesticulating; platoons of clerks and secretaries scurrying hither and thither; telephone ringing; bells buzzing; typewriters clattering...

First impressions are indeed of chaos—as if some vast employment exchange had been overwhelmed with eager applicants for a sudden spate of vacant jobs. And indeed, in a sense, I suppose that is what it is: for this is the Special Projects Office of the Presidential Arm on Community Development. And yet within only a few minutes of talking to Director Antonio M. Nuesa, one realizes that though there might seem to be chaos it is a very efficiently-run and well-ordered chaos.

Seated behind a small desk in an austere little office that did little to muffle the bustling noises outside, Mr. Nuesa explained the aims and purposes of the Special Projects Office. It was established only about two years ago, the key to the success of the project resting in the word 'volunteers'.

"Under this project we operate two kinds of volunteer programmes", he said. "One, the VIP Programme which stands for Volunteers for the Improvement of the Philippines; and the other, PRO-VIP Programme, or Professional Volunteers for the Improvement of the Philippines. The difference between the two speaks for itself." The VIP programme, Mr. Nuesa added, is operated mostly by university stu-

...CD volunteers



'Operation Casma' was one of the PRO-VIP schemes organised by the Community Development Special Projects Office in the Philippines. Here, watched by a large crowd of villagers, doctors and nurses are seen arriving at Biliran, Leyte. In a single year 'Operation Casma' rendered medical attention to more than 70,000 people throughout the country.

lents who due to financial difficulties have had to uspend their courses of study.

Since the scheme was launched in 1966, more han 400 volunteers in this category have joined the roject with another 200 in the latest group currently vorking on programmes all over the country, some n barrios helping to implement self-help projects, ome in offices as administrators and some in the eld as engineers, technicians and agriculturists. "We

barrios prosper

ry to place them where we can and in positions best uited to their capabilities," explained Mr. Nuesa.

Generally speaking, volunteers in this category ome under the heading of barrios and municipal officers assisting in development. Their term of employment is usually for a year during which they are paid pesos 60 a month subsistence allowance and pesos 30 scholarship allowance.

Mr. Nuesa shrugged: "It is not very much and we only wish we could pay them more, but as it is we operate on a very tight budget and we have many more applicants than we would like to be able to absorb. For instance, out of 1000 applicants this year alone we could only afford to take our normal quota of 200."

The significant thing, however, he explained, is that the pesos 30 scholarship allowance is withheld so that by the end of the year the pesos 365 that has accrued is given to the volunteers' respective colleges thus enabling them to return to resume their courses of study. This is sufficient on an average to support a student for two terms or a full year's study.

Turning to the PRO-VIP Programme, Mr. Nuesa said this was split into two categories: MEDICS and Education. MEDICS, which appropriately stands for Medical Expedition to Doctorless Indigent Communities, is a fairly recent conception.

Launched in April 1968, already more than 500 qualified doctors, dentists and nurses have passed through the hands of Special Project officers.

Free medicines

These medical volunteers have formed themselves into a kind of corporation which handles manpower problems, while the Community Development Organization has an agreement with various pharmacies for supplying medicines and drugs. Some private drug companies even go so far as to donate medicines and equipment while the Special Projects Office has, itself, spent hundreds of thousands of pesos on medicines.

"But as is always the case", Mr. Nuesa said, "the availability of adequate drugs is a continuing problem and we can never really have sufficient to treat the ever-increasing number of patients in the countryside."

A woman teacher under the Educational scheme of the PRO-VIP programme operated by the Community Development Special Projects Office, is seen here conducting a kindergarten class in Balic-Balic, Sampaloc, Manila.

Yet in spite of limitations, as of today, the MEDICS scheme has cured an estimated half a million people of various diseases. No mean feat considering the shoe-string budget under which they operate.

The educational arm of the PRO-VIP programme is again a fairly recent scheme, "aimed at trying to narrow the gap between rich and poor in terms of education," said Mr. Nuesa.

How is the CommunityDevelopment Special Projects Office tackling such a formidable task? Kindergarten schools are part of the answer. "We have already established 85 of these all over the country, each run by a teacher under our educational scheme. Each teacher has a one-year contract with us and we pay them an allowance of pesos 120 a month." Again, said Mr. Nuesa, many more apply than the Project Office can take on.

VIP volunteers are pictured here helping to conduct a youth welfare camp in Los Banos, Laguna, about 50 miles from Manila. The instructor is refereeing a wrestling match between two young contestants.

Quite apart from all that has already been accomplished Mr. Nuesa and his collegues are consistently putting their heads together to thrash out the possibility of introducing new schemes.

As active as anyone in this respect is the dynamic secretary of the whole Community Development movement in the Philippines, Ernesto M. Maceda.

One of the nation's youngest and most able administrators Mr. Maceda has been the brains behind the inception of many successful schemes launched under the Community Development Programme. Several new ones have already reached the "blue-print" stage and could be implemented tomorrow if sufficient funds were forthcoming. "For instance, we have a countryside plan under consideration to make use of youths during their out-of-school leisure hours to assist people in their own towns and villages to engender that team spirit and sense of belonging to the community which is so important to the social well-being of the rural population," said Mr. Nuesa.

There are numerous small ways in which young school boys and girls can help, from arranging sporting events of various kinds to setting examples of leadership by giving ungrudgingly a helping hand on the land during planting and harvesting seasons.

"Much has already been accomplished under Community Development, Mr. Nuesa added, modestly showing me impressive lists of figures which revealed that out of a total of 32,000 villages throughout the Philippines the hand of Community Development had left its mark in one way or another on about 25 per cent of them.

"On the other hand, we must not allow ourselves to be boggled by statistics. They look all very well on paper; but it is only when we get out into the heart of the countryside to meet the people and see for ourselves, that the full impact becomes glaringly apparent of just how much still remains to be accomplished."

No pipe dream

In spite of his sensible down-to-earth approach based on realism rather than statistics one could not help feeling that if Mr. Nuesa's drive and initiative is anything to go by, coupled with the diligence and dedication of his hard-working staff, a prosperous, thriving rural community in the Philippines is no pipe dream but, on the contrary, well within the bounds of achievement.

Volunteer doctors and dentists are seen here attending to an endless line of patients in Camiguin Barrio, the Philippines.

They are working under the PRO-VIP scheme of the Community Development Special Projects Office, which is part of the Presidential Arm on Community Development.

ASIAN

ASIAN nationalism was the one single factor most responsible for the manner in which the bold political, social and economic changes had occurred in the contemporary scene.

The Secretary-General of SEATO, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas, expressed this view when he spoke on the subject of "Asian Nationalism—its Drawbacks and its Potential" at the Don Muang Catholic Protestant Chapel Dinner held last month at the Imperial Hotel in Bangkok.

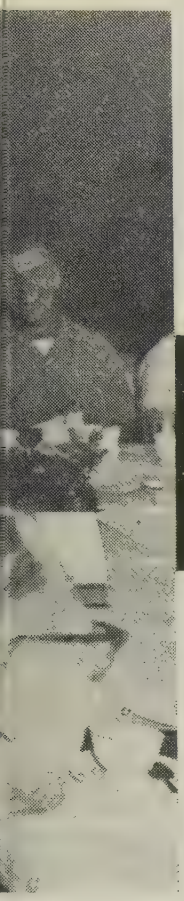
"It is my considered view," said Gen. Vargas, "that Asian nationalism is the strongest, most potent inherent force at play in Asia today."

Asian nationalism had manifested itself in various pace-setting ways. It had found eloquent expression in the unprecedented militancy of the youth of today, in substantial reforms in the Church, in a radically altered approach to the nagging social and economic problems of developing countries, in a critical re-examination of the free nations' relations with the Communist countries and in various other forms, most of which appeared to be beyond the realms of possibility several years ago. Indeed, nationalism was responsible for much of the changed and still changing face of Asia.

" How have the Communists reacted to the swelling tide of Asian nationalism?" asked Gen. Vargas.

"As their modus operandi in Asia the Communists place high in their programme the exploitation of the negative aspect of nationalism: the attainment by developing Asian countries of their political, economic and social objectives through a hate campaign and other forms of deleterious practices. This programme of exploitation tends to the view that aversion to foreigners is a pre-requisite to the sound exercise of nationalism."

One of the principal pre-occupations of the Communists was, therefore, to inject their own brand of



NATIONALISM

...there are drawbacks and advantages, says SEATO Secretary-General

ıationalism among the free peoples of Asia, the Secretary-General continued. The ffort consisted of playing up the evils of the past colonial era, the injustices and ndignities, the exploitation and humiliation of weaker nations at the hands of the hen colonial powers which, they pointed out, today made up the leadership of the Western bloc. Sensitive issues such as the "colonial mentality" of national leaders, scribed to the lingering influence of foreign powers, and national ills purportedly temming from the same cause—colonialism—were dramatized and often exaggerated.

"This magnification of alleged inequities and their effects on national welfare re designed to produce a public aversion to friendly elations with the West and, ultimately, to influence nd re-shape national policy," said Gen. Vargas. Association with a friendly Western country, the spousal of pro-Western sentiments in the course of ıe Cold War, and even collaboration in matters of ommon interest, are regarded as 'puppetry' inimical o the national welfare and inconsistent with national overeignty and integrity. Under this type of nation-lism, its precursors advocate the abrogation of treaties nd bases agreements with the Western powers, and ıe adoption, in their place, of a policy of neutralism.

"I consider particularly significant," he added, "the intensified endeavours of late of Communist drum-beaters to erode the friendly ties between free Asians and their Western allies. Indeed, those efforts expose their gnawing apprehension and concern over the growing efficacy of Free World alliances like SEATO as instruments of common defence and security. They demonstrate the increasing fear of the Communists over the determined efforts of free Asians, with the assistance of powerful friends elsewhere in the world, to invigorate the sinews of peace and security in this region through a system of mutually beneficial and honourable collaboration.

Their fear was understandable, Gen. Vargas said. A strong and progressive Free Asia was decisively a thorn in the way of Communist world expansionism. On the other hand, the alienation of non-Asians from Asians would pave the way for the latter's eventual annexation into the Communist orbit.

Deception – duplicity

"We all know that deception and duplicity are the essence of Communist behaviour, and nowhere is it more evident than in its mock espousal of nationalism. For how can the Communists be sincere advocates of something which they themselves ridicule as 'bourgeois affectation,' and despise as a 'corrupted influence'? How can nationalism—the devotion to, or advocacy of, national interests—be compatible with 'proletarian internationalism' which is, in plain language, international communism? But let the Communist leaders speak for themselves," said the Secretary-General.

As early as 1935, the Soviet leader, Dimitrov, described the genuine Communist as a man without a country and who, therefore, should consider Moscow as his own Moscow and the Soviet Union as his own State. This sentiment had been stated even more bluntly by Vishinsky in 1948 when he had declared that the sole criterion for a true Communist was: 'Are you for or against the USSR, the Motherland of the Proletariat'?

Incompatible

Gen. Vargas recalled that in his country during the height of the Communist-inspired Huk rebellion, an adaptation of Stalin's Strategy and Tactics was prescribed as a required text in clandestine schools of the communist Party of the Philippines. The textbook provided that should there be a conflict in the future between national strategy and international communism, it should be resolved in favour of the latter. "This simply meant that, in the event of such a conflict arising, national interests should be subordinated to the interests of International Communism. Now, how could a decent, right-thinking free Asian, jealous of his rights and proud of his heritage, accept this concept of nationalism? How could he accept Communist support of his nationalistic aspirations when the assistance offered is the kind of support which, in the words of Stalin himself, the rope gives to a hanging man. One can readily see that there is no room for genuine nationalism under this Communist precept.

The Secretary-General went on to say that the upheavals that had occurred over the years in the countries of Eastern Europe, such as the very recent experience of Czechoslovakia, were a patent demonstration of the incompatibility of nationalism with communism.

"Also, I am sure that you still recall the role played by the Communists in the crucial turmoil in the late 1950's that visited the Middle East—specifically Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan—where, riding on the saddle of intense Arab nationalism, the Communists acted to turn the rising tide of such legitimate nationalism into a hate campaign against the United States and other Western democracies. This clear Communist attempt to misdirect national aspirations in the Middle East—the cradle of Christianity—was blunted only by aversion of the majority of the Arab leaders to communism, which they rightly considered as a way of life given to godlessness, sin and violence.

Nationalism not communism

"Nationalism, of course, is not communism," Gen. Vargas pointed out. "It can divide a nation or nations as easily as it can unify them for the attainment of a common cause. And the fact that the Communists continually strive to exploit this issue for their own nefarious ends neither divests it of its legitimacy nor detracts from its intrinsic worth as a vital force for progress."

The Secretary-General said that at one point in his military career, he was assigned to a field unit in the heart of Communist disturbances in his country, in Central Luzon, where he had the opportunity to observe spontaneous and massive manifestations of nationalism among the rural folk. "I witnessed how readily entire communities responded to undertakings of the military which were designed to enhance peace and order in the locality. And this wholesome display of nationalistic fervour was by no means limited to the security aspects of community life. It was evident in respect also of purely civilian community projects, such as the erection of a village schoolhouse or the construction of a feeder road. In fact, the initiative appeared to be more complete and the enthusiasm more intense when the undertaking was a community-initiated affair.

"Let me cite an example. In one of our constant patrol activities, I chanced upon a group of rural inhabitants doing the serious work of harvesting in a rice paddy. Curiosity got the better of me when I recognized in the group some of the more prominent, land-holding citizens of the community. I was told that the effort was a co-operative endeavour—what we call in the Philippines a Bayanihan, and that the beneficiary of that wonderful display of community spirit was a lowly farmer who was too sick to harvest his ripened crop.

"From that time on, I have often wondered if this latent village spirit could not be utilized more fully to propel progress in all directions, there to permeate every aspect of the national life. I have wondered if this was not, in fact, the answer to the obvious need for increased rural participation in the task of nation-building—an undertaking so often misconstrued as pertaining solely to the national government and the urban communities."

The main problem

Gen. Vargas added that most of the free countries of Asia today were in the crucial stages of development. Probably because of circumstances beyond their control, the growth of political, cultural and spiritual institutions had not been matched by a corresponding improvement of economic conditions. Thus, the primary problem of most free Asian countries at present, apart from the many-faceted threat of Communist aggression, was economic, and to solve it, many Asian countries had resorted to industrialization. But industrialization was necessarily the concern of urban communities.

Consequently, there was a noticeable exodus of capital and manpower from the rural areas to the urban localities. The rural areas, which represented the greater portion of those countries, were left out in this national undertaking, which resulted in certain economic dislocations and social imbalances.

Investments vital

"Had that capital been invested in small-time but worthwhile village industries, and had that manpower been harnessed for the same purpose, there would have resulted a more balanced effect on the national welfare as a whole.

"When a village man invested a little capital in a local industry, say weaving or pottery-making, he automatically unleashed a force that would affect the life and future of his community. In the first place, he would be tapping locally-produced raw materials and native skill. This would mean employment for a number of village hands, and respite from want and suffering on the part of a corresponding number of families in the community. And the beneficial effects of such a venture would not be confined to the enterprise and its personnel," emphasised Gen. Vargas.

"The project would tend to stir dormant initiative, encourage production, increase the people's purchasing power, and in the main improve the standards of living of the community. Here is where national industries and the nation at large would profit," he said.

"A local situation such as I have just described would likewise trigger off various other improvements in the life of the locality. Economic self-sufficiency would afford rural residents added opportunities for cultural advancement, and they would be inspired to participate more in the political and other affairs of the nation. Reasonably enlightened and relatively contented, they would become increasingly impervious to the machinations and importunings of alien ideologies.

Re-direction

"Duplicate this rural community situation all over a given country or countries," he said, and the future of the nation or of the region is assured.

"As an Asian who has watched with keen interest the trend of Asian nationalism and its relation to the peace and stability of South-East Asia, I believe that it must undergo a certain amount of re-direction, while retaining essentially its inherent force and character as the devotion to, or advocacy of, national interests.

"Up until now, the concept and application of nationalism has centred almost wholly on the quest for national interests. My view is, that, because of the imperatives of a common destiny imposed upon us by a peculiar era of regional and international collaboration, our approach to nationalism must of necessity be an enlightened one."

By all means, let each people be nationalistic, said Gen. Vargas. After all, nationalism was the badge

and honour of a free and sovereign people, Asian or non-Asian. For many countries, nationalism had kept the people together during many a trying period in their national existence. "It is the same quality inherent in a free people that would see them through future crises in their quest for a position of added honour and greatness in the concert of sovereign powers.

National survival

"To my mind, one does not necessarily have to be self-centred and exclusivist in order for one to maintain one's sovereignty and guard one's national pride. Free Asians can very well pursue and exercise nationalism without unduly compromising their common interests with friendly Western countries.

"In the new era in which we live, where no man can be an island to himself, we hold values in common with our friends and allies, which have come to form a part and parcel of our national interests. It is no longer unusual, under present-day conditions, to find the interests of one nation identified or interwoven with those of others. The tendency has been to lift territorial boundaries and, collectively, to pursue common developmental objectives and have common security systems in the face of the mounting threat which communism presents to free peoples everywhere.

"The ultimate overall objective of free countries is national survival; and what greater and more valid interest could a nation have than national survival?" asked the General.

If nationalism in Asia was to prosper on a sound basis, and if its full force and potential were to be fully harnessed in order to propel developing countries to prosperity, it must be fortified against the danger of Communist exploitation and perversion. Its advocates must possess the requisie courage and integrity to insulate it from Communist corruption.

"They must be sufficiently equipped with the intelligence, the foresight and the statesmanship to know precisely where nationalism ended and where bigotry and narrow-mindedness, perforce inimical to the national interests, began.

"Nationalism is, therefore, a necessary ingredient to sound internationalism so indispensable to sovereign nations today. It is a fast-shrinking world that we live in, and the threat of Communist expansionism has steadily increased over the years in inverse ratio.

"The strategy of the Communists of nibbling parts of the free world without having themselves to undertake an armed adventure as such has multiplied many times over the need for peoples to effect a closely knit, effective system of collaboration for the common good."

Isolation and neutralism, said Gen. Vargas, were not the answers to the Communist problem in this sensitive part of the world. Rather, they were the catalytic agents that could hasten Communist victory. And blind and self-centred nationalism—a nationalism that derived strength in hatred and vigour in prejudice—could indeed serve to complete what he called "the ignominious process."

A unique force

General Vargas concluded by appealing to his listeners to address themselves more fully to the strengthening of the spiritual and moral defences of Free Asia against the evil forces of communism. "Because of your respective individual positions in the social, cultural and even political structures of Free World society, you are a force unique in yourselves with unlimited opportunities for effective service to mankind in those fields. I ask you, therefore, to assert your individual and collective influence and help direct legitimate national aspirations and the other forces at play in this sensitive part of the world, and at this crucial time, to the enduring benefit of free men the world over."

U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWALS — AND THE ECONOMIC AFTERMATH

FOLLOWING recent discussions between the Governments of the United States and Thailand agreement has been reached on the gradual reduction of U. S. forces in Thailand.

Thailand's Foreign Minister, Mr. Thanat Khoman, and United States Ambassador, Mr. Leonard Unger, agreed in principle that the timing and rate of withdrawal of American forces stationed in Thailand should depend on the military situation in South Vietnam and the general security situation of South-East Asia.

After the preliminary talks, Dr. Thanat said: "In a cordial and friendly atmosphere, we reached agreement on important principles."

"We were agreed that the U.S. forces stationed here have the chief duty of keeping to a minimum the casualties among US, South Vietnamese and other allied forces serving in South Vietnam and are not engaged in combat against Communist terrorists."

Mr. Unger commented: "It was a very useful discussion."

Communique

After further talks the following joint communique was issued:

"The President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Thailand announced that the United States Government and the Royal Thai Government

cautious beginning...

Pictured above at the beginning of discussions on proposed U.S. troop withdrawals from Thailand are the United States Ambassador, Mr. Leonard Unger, left, and Thailand's Foreign Minister, Mr. Thanat Kohman. Below, at the end of nearly two hours of discussion a happy agreement is reached.

...happy ending

have completed bilateral talks to arrange for an orderly reduction of United States forces in Thailand, which are here in connection with the Vietnam war.

"The two Governments have agreed that approximately 6,000 United States military personnel, from both the Air Force and the Army, are to be withdrawn from Thailand. They will be withdrawn as expeditiously as possible consistent with operational requirements related to the Vietnam conflict. Redeployment action will begin within a few weeks and it is planned that all the forces involved will have departed by July 1, 1970.

"The two Governments will continue to evaluate the level of United States armed forces in Thailand in the light of their assessment of developments in the Vietnam conflict."

This announcement was the signal for economic policy experts to get together to discuss the impact on the national economy of the forthcoming withdrawals.

Economic impact

A U. S. Agency for International Development meeting was the first to discuss the possible economic after effects.

The Thai and American members of the three-man panel included Mr. Konrad Bekker, U.S. Embassy economist, Dr. Puey Ungphakorn, Governor of the Bank of Thailand, and NEDB Secretary-General Prayad Buranasiri.

Mr. Bekker, beginning the meeting, said the presence of the U. S. military in Thailand had affected the Thai economy in many ways.

Lasting effects

For one, "the Thai economy has far greater resources today than it had five years ago when the military build-up started.

"Among the lasting effects ... is the construction of roads, communications and other facilities which have civilian as well as military uses."

Also, the U.S. had spent $759 million since 1965 training some 44,000 locally hired workers, he said.

"These were a relatively skilled and energetic group who would have been gainfully employed elsewhere at somewhat lower wages if it had not been for the employment opportunities at the bases."

Turning to other matters, Mr. Bekker said that, anticipating economic problems involved with the pull-out, Thai economic planners had imposed "fiscal and monetary restraints" to forestall inflation.

As a result, rents were returning to normal, though nightclubs and jewellery shops might lose a good deal of business.

Mr. Bekker concluded his presentation optimistically saying that Thailand faced, not economic debility, but an open situation.

"Certainly there are many problems, but there are also many opportunities and policy options," he added.

Mr. Prayad, while concurring with Mr. Bekker on most points doubted the Paris Peace talks ability to reach an early settlement of the Vietnam war.

Gradual pullout

"Air support (based in Thailand) will be required for some time suggesting that the pullout from Thailand will be gradual," he said.

Consequently he felt that economic problems brought about by U. S. troop withdrawls would not be immediate.

Meanwhile, he said, Thailand should concern itself with settling the balance of payments, establishing foreign exchange reserves, locating more world markets of Thai products and seeking ways to increase the tourist trade.

The Government's allowing private enterprise a free hand and the support of a liberal trade policy would go a long way towards offsetting the adverse economic effects of the withdrawal.

Pessimistic view

Dr. Puey admitted he was more pessimistic about the situation.

"We are going to lose $ 170 million a year in foreign exchange," he said. This loss would continue for some time.

"We can expect a deficit of between $ 250 million and $ 350 million in the next two years," he said.

His economic plans would include expansion rather than contraction of imports and exports.

"If we restrict imports we will kill our productive capacity and the rules and regulations (involved in these restrictions) will breed corruption."

The Governor concluded hopefully by saying "the future need not be bleak."

'CO-OPERATION, NOT COMPETITION,' SAYS CALINGO

SPEAKING on the subject of 'Regional Co-operation' at a Rotary Club meeting in Bangkok earlier this month the Philippines Ambassador to Thailand, Mr. Mauro Calingo, said that to insure a more meaningful and fuller life for the peoples of developing nations "we must have co-operation, not competition; negotiation, not confrontation."

Mr. Calingo said that countries in the region that were formerly colonies preferred to choose independence before waiting for economic stability.

"We chose to elect freedom at all costs and went ahead to build up our countries as best we could. This is not to say, however, that we did not attach importance to economic stability. We knew that independence would be but an empty shell if the people were unfed, unwell, unclothed, unschooled and in fear of the future. But we would rather manage our own house than entrust it to others. There is something satisfying and rewarding in running our own affairs however difficult it might be at times," said Mr. Calingo.

Mr. Calingo went on to say that on gaining independence it was natural for countries to re-orient themselves towards their neighbors; to try to know them better and revive the ancient ties of friendship and kinship and the racial and cultural affinities which were broken or forgotten during the long years of separation under colonial rule. "So that it was not until after we all became free and independent that we could really get together and plan on regional co-operation."

Some of the countries were still linked to the West by military pacts and trade agreements. But this was a changing world he said, and where yesterday

Mr. Mauro Calingo, the Philippines Ambassador to Thailand, is pictured above speaking on 'regional co-operation' at a recent Rotary Club lunch in Bangkok.

such pacts and agreements were necessary, the situation might be different today or tomorrow when countries may have to fend for themselves. "Then we shall realize, if indeed we have not yet realized, that in the final analysis our strength and our salvation must come from ourselves and not from others.

"We have been told as much and by no less than the leader of one of our allies. During his recent visit to the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand, the central theme of his speeches was that the peoples of these countries should learn to rely more and more upon themselves for their defence and development and that the nations of Asia can and must increasingly shoulder the responsibility for achieving peace and progress in the area."

Mr. Calingo agreed that the defence of respective countries was primarily their responsibility and that they could not and should not expect others to do it for them. But under their present state of development, what chance had they to defend themselves singly against a superior power? he asked.

"The answer, in my opinion, lies not only in making ourselves so strong, individually and collectively, that it would be too costly for a would-be aggressor to attack us but also in arousing world public opinion to condemn him."

Regional groupings

Mr. Calingo then went on to cite some of the regional organizations that had come into being over the years including the South-East Asia Treaty Organization which although designed mainly as a defensive alliance nevertheless pursued a number of valuable economic and cultural projects.

"During the fifteen years of its existence, SEATO has been the target of attacks and criticisms, naturally from Communist quarters and from those which were friendly with them. It is to the credit of SEATO, however, that despite the claim that it is a "Paper Tiger", the fact remains that up to now not one of its member-States has been the object of external Communist aggression."

After mentioning the formation of ASA, ASPAC, ASEAN and a number of others Mr. Calingo said that it may be felt that with so many organizations now in existence the problem arose of a certain amount of overlapping and duplication in the work they did.

Such problems as these, however, had been largely overcome "and I think the future is bright with promise though the road is not easy. We have the resources, we are getting the know-how and with regional co-operation our deliverance is almost at hand.

"We have an obligation to the future no less than to the present," Mr. Calingo concluded. "It has been said that a nation without vision will perish and that the future belongs to those who prepare for it.

"If because of lack of foresight, jealousy, avarice, pride and intransigence we condemn the future by inaction or wranglings in the present, we shall surely be held accountable in the judgment book of history.

"I am afraid that we have tarried too long and that time is running short for us. Let us, therefore, make haste and bend together our efforts and all the expertise at our command and, through regional co-operation, bring our peoples unto the promised land of peace, progress and prosperity."

Thanat: the world as we see it

AS LEADER OF THAILAND'S DELEGATION TO THE 24TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, HELD LAST MONTH IN NEW YORK, THE FOREIGN MINISTER, MR. THANAT KHOMAN, DELIVERED A LONG SPEECH TOUCHING UPON THE WORLD'S MAJOR TROUBLE SPOTS THAT ARE AFFECTING INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF THE DAY. EXTRACTS FROM HIS SPEECH FOLLOW:

ON ASIA:

"Now, more than ever, we realize in the depth of our hearts and minds that our strength lies within ourselves, our nations and our ancient lands. Outsiders come and go; they do not take roots, while we the people of Asia are unalterably anchored to our eternal soil. We and we alone have, and shall always have, the primary responsibility of making it fertile, peaceful and prosperous. This is exactly what we have set ourselves to do and intend to do to the best of our ability. That is why we have devoted our time, energy and dedication to forge a much needed sense of solidarity and cohesiveness, to lay down the basis for working profitably together and to replace the outmoded imperialistic concepts of domination and subjection with the humane and progressive philosophy of co-operation and partnership.

"As a result of these efforts, a number of organizations for regional co-operation such as the Asian and Pacific Council (ASPAC), and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), have sprung up. Undoubtedly, they are still in their initial and almost experimental stage. However, with the passage of time and accumulation of experience, they will gradually gain strength and will be consolidated to offer maximum benefits and services to member nations.

"These regional groupings stress a close working relationship between the participants who share similar ideals and aspirations. Ultimately, they aim at encompassing all nations of the area even though they may have dissimilar international and domestic policies as well as different political, economic and social systems. They also envisage co-operation with nations outside the area provided that the latter agree to work with them on the basis of equality and partnership, sharing equitably advantages and obligations."

ON VIETNAM:

"In Asia, as indeed in the rest of the world, Vietnam still remains a harrowing problem which not only continues to cost far too many human lives and valuable material resources but also presents a danger to the tenuous fabric of international peace and the national freedom of smaller nations... Nations like Thailand with an uninterrupted tradition of sovereign statehood could not remain indifferent before the onslaught to subjugate a small nation struggling to remain free to follow its own destiny. The role that Thailand has been playing, either on its own or in concert with other like-minded nations, has been solely motivated by the desire to stem the tide of aggression and to ensure for the nations of South-East Asia the prospect of leading a peaceful and progressive life with freedom and dignity.

"The sooner the Vietnam war can be brought to a just and satisfactory conclusion and the traumatic effects on many nations removed, the better for all concerned. At this juncture, although many conciliatory and concrete measures to de-escalate the war have been taken by the defending side, the North Vietnamese and their allies who are stubbornly bent on consummating their conquest have shown themselves to be unyielding and uncompromising."

ON LAOS:

"As in Vietnam, Laos has been suffering for many long years from the expansionist North Vietnamese aggressors who relentlessly have been waging an illegal and immoral war on the peace-loving Laotian people, in complete contravention of the Geneva Agreements which their representatives duly signed in 1954 and 1962.

"Indeed, all the nations and peoples of the world who are dedicated to peace and freedom, and particularly the co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference who are entrusted with the duty of ensuring the observance of the said agreements, should exert more meaningful efforts to enjoin the Hanoi regime to respect the obligations it has voluntarily accepted and withdraw its military forces from the Kingdom of Laos."

ON THE MIDDLE EAST:

"The situation in the Middle East still offers a gloomy picture on the international scene. A series of violent and prolonged skirmishes which the distinguished Secretary-General has qualified as a virtual state of war continues to inflame passions and a new round of hostilities does not seem too remote a possibility. Furthermore, the quiet and patient efforts of Ambassador Jarring and the flurry of political consultations, both multilateral and bilateral between representatives of the major powers here in New York and elsewhere appear to have produced little concrete result. No significant headway has in fact been made towards uncovering a procedure of defusing the explosive situation."

ON WEST IRIAN:

"The delegation of Thailand is gratified at the recent completion of the Act of Free Choice in the territory of West Irian... The nations concerned, as well as the United Nations, are to be congratulated for having successfully demonstrated their determination to settle this complex matter in such a smooth and constructive manner. The Government of Indonesia, in particular, has shown its good faith towards the obligations incumbent upon it as a member of the international community and has accordingly upheld and strengthened the principle of self-determination for all people."

ON DISARMAMENT:

"As we salute the success of the American nation in realising the age-old dream of landing a man on the moon, maybe it is also time to express our hope that such technological advance and peaceful co-operation may be brought down from space to prevail on earth for more palpable benefits to mankind. Sophisticated science and technology should now be turned away from purely theoretical and especially destructive purposes and channelled instead into more peaceful pursuits to serve the needs of countless millions of people everywhere.

"While we are realistic enough to admit that, in the final analysis, significant steps to achieve disarmament must depend on the decisions of the great powers as to the level of their own security, we regret that the long-awaited talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on strategic arms limitation have not started or even definitely been scheduled. We also consider it necessary to join in the rising chorus of developing nations which demand that the industrially advanced nations should concurrently dedicate a substantial part of their efforts toward the betterment of human conditions, rather than the glorification of their scientific, industrial or technological achievements. They should indeed devote greater attention and resources to help improve the appallingly low standard of living of a large part of humanity.

"That is why, of the various questions of disarmament on the Agenda, the delegation of Thailand places the Sea-Bed item on its priority list, for it typifies the kind of technological co-operation that is needed and which, given a reasonable amount of general goodwill, could lead to the implementation of the concept of "common heritage of mankind."

ON ECONOMICS:

"The world economic situation, regrettably, still remains a matter of serious and constant concern to all members of the United Nations, and, in particular, to those countries which, like my own, are engaged in the perennial struggle for self-sustaining economic growth. They have to cope with the numerous and complex problems of under-development. In fact, the need for rapid development is now never more urgent or more desperate. Despite persistent and organized efforts on a global scale, progress towards development and modernization by the less-privileged two-thirds of mankind—over two billion people—has been to say the least, disappointing. These poorer people still remain caught in a tragic web of circumstances that drastically restrict their legitimate right to a more decent life.

"Unfortunately, the United Nations Development Decade which began on a note of glorious hope is drawing to a close on a note of disenchantment, and now it is often being referred to as the Decade of Disillusionment. The 5 per cent rate of growth of national income has been achieved only by a handful of nations including Thailand, but does not prove to be the case for the majority of the developing countries.

"The rich nations do not seem to be exerting maximum efforts to adopt all the necessary measures likely to help the developing nations in their efforts towards economic progress and social well-being. Further endeavours must therefore be pursued by both the developed and developing countries to carry on preparatory work for the United Nations Second Decade with the hope of doing better in the future.

"We believe that the next Decade of Development, to which the Third World is looking with renewed hope and confidence, should not become only a matter of drawing up commitments. It should, in equal terms, be a question of how to put into practical effect the means and resources at the disposal of the international community.

"Also of equal importance is our realization that the preparations for the new Decade must be made in a harmonious atmosphere of active co-operation between the developed and developing countries. It is only through the genuinely cooperative endeavour of both groups that fruitful results can be expected and achieved."...

Stability the key to a 'do-it-yourself' policy line

A REASSESSMENT of American policy towards future involvement with nations facing Communist subversion or insurgency wars was outlined last month by U. S. Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Elliot Richardson.

Speaking to the International Studies Association in New York he stressed that the "Vietnam experience has made clear the difficulties involved in applying a policy of American intervention in insurgency wars."

Mr. Richardson said the Nixon administration is charting a course in foreign policy which will make it clear that U. S. assistance to nations threatened by internal subversion "will depend upon the realities of each separate situation."

The Vietnam war had demonstrated that the effectiveness of any government, even with American help, in controlling insurgency "is dependent on the broad-based support of its own people," Mr. Richardson asserted.

The Vietnam conflict, he said, had underlined the importance for domestic programmes which were responsive to the social demands on which insurgency fed.

"We cannot, it now seems clear, do the job of fighting insurgency for someone else. We cannot provide the indigenous will and resolution, or the toughness and durability that are needed if this kind of warfare is to be waged successfully," he said.

Mr. Richardson said that now that the decade of the 1960's was ending, "other circumstances have so changed as to restrict the kinds of help that are needed."

He said that foremost among developments "making dependency upon American help less necessary has been the growth in strength and confidence of the newly independent nations, particularly those of Asia."

Since emerging from colonialism, these nations had demonstrated a "growing capacity to protect their independence" because their "nationalistic ardor ...makes outside domination difficult to accomplish and harder to maintain."

Mr. Richardson, the State Department's second highest official, also spoke of U. S. response to "large-scale intervention" in other nations from abroad.

Precipitous action

This, he said, was "something else again and must be considered against the backdrop of the total obligations and interests of the American people."

He said that President Nixon had stressed that American commitments in Asia "remain unchanged, and that we will continue to play a role as a Pacific power."

However, Mr. Richardson noted, the "character of our participation is being updated."

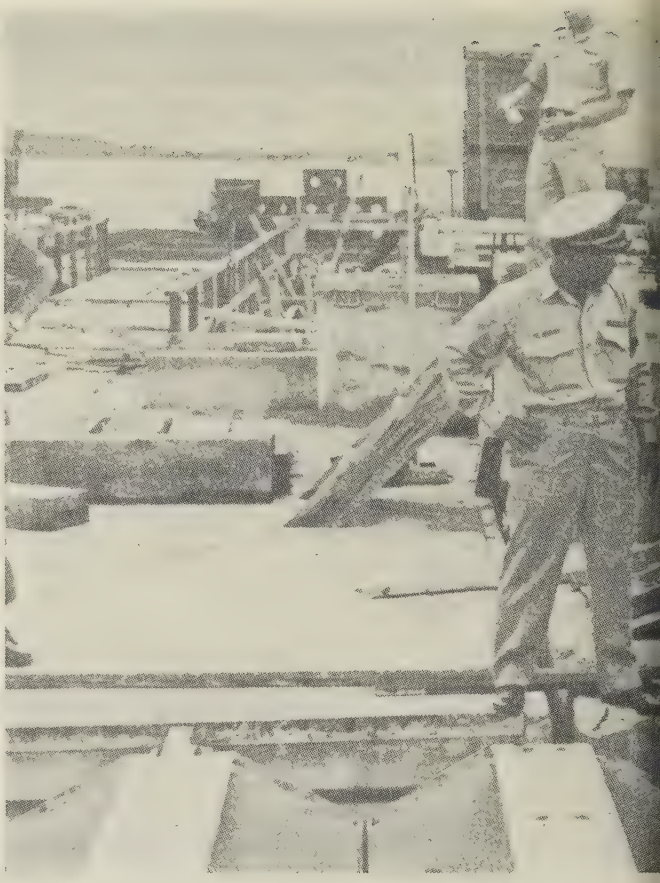
Under-Secretary Richardson said President Nixon himself had recently observed that one of the weaknesses of past U. S. foreign policy had been that "too often we react rather precipitously to events as they occur."

Mr. Richardson said the American people were looking for stability, not adventurism. President Nixon's political support so representative of the broad middle body of American thought gave him a degree of support, and hence flexibility in his dealings with other nations, that would be denied to someone who represented either political extreme.

"Under this administration American foreign policy has entered upon a distinct new era, one marked by some quite fundamental changes in course, emphasis and direction. Definite long range goals are being set, against which the wisdom of shorter range decisions can be judged," Mr. Richardson added.

LOGISTICS

SUPPLY AND DEMAND THE MILITARY WAY



FIVE Logistic Officers from the Armed Forces of the Philippines recently carried out an orientaton visit to Thai and United States logistic facilities in Thailand.

The visit, arranged by the SEATO Military Planning Office, was similar to those organized for military officers of other member nations with the aim of further improving the joint planning capability of SEATO.

Colonel Antonio Tamayo, Philippine Air Force, headed the Filipino group. Other members were Lieutenant Colonel Damaso C. Quioco, Philippine Constabulary; Commander Venceslao Dela Cruz, Philippine Navy; and Lieutenant Colonel Constantino Cid and Major Angel Kanapi, Philippine Army. Colonel Henry G. Allard, United States Army from JUSMAG Philippines, accompanied the team.

Lieut. Col. Paul E. Riese, a United States Army officer serving in the SEATO Military Planning Office, was liaison officer for the visit.

At SEATO Headquarters in Bangkok the team met Secretary-General Jesus Vargas and received

Air Vice-Marshal Chamrat Vinagupta, Commandant of the Military Technical Training School, a joint Thai-Australian Project under SEATO, is seen here briefing logistic officers on a table-top model of the school during a visit they made to see trainees working in the well equipped workshops.

Members of the orientation team are pictured here inspecting work being done at the ship repair yard of the Royal Thai Navy Maintenance Facility at Sattahip. The officers are being briefed on a 950-ton lift.

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Thailand, and visited the 9th Logistic Command Depot. The use of computors at the Depot in controlling the supply and demand of repair parts for vehicles was of particular interest to the team.

Also at Korat the team visited the Support Command, 2nd Royal Thai Army. All were impressed with the progress achieved in introducing this unique organization into the Thai Armed Forces.

Before returning to Bangkok the Philippine officers visited Thai and United States facilities in the Sattahip area including the Royal Thai Navy Maintenance facilities, the US Army Depot, and Sattahip Port.

Back in Bangkok the team inspected the Royal Thai Army Ordnance Depot at Bangsue before the Orientation visit ended with logistics briefings and discussions at the SEATO Military Planning Office.

All the visitors said that they had found the tour of considerable value in developing their awareness of the problems of collective defence within the Treaty Area. They felt that as a result of the trip they would become more productive members of the SEATO Planning Team.

riefings from the Military Planning Office staff on EATO's defensive military plans.

The team then visited the Royal Thai Armed orces Technical Train- g School at Bangsue nd the Armed Forces ehicle Rebuild Work- hop at Rangsit.

At Korat the team ceived briefings at the eadquarters, United tates Army Support to

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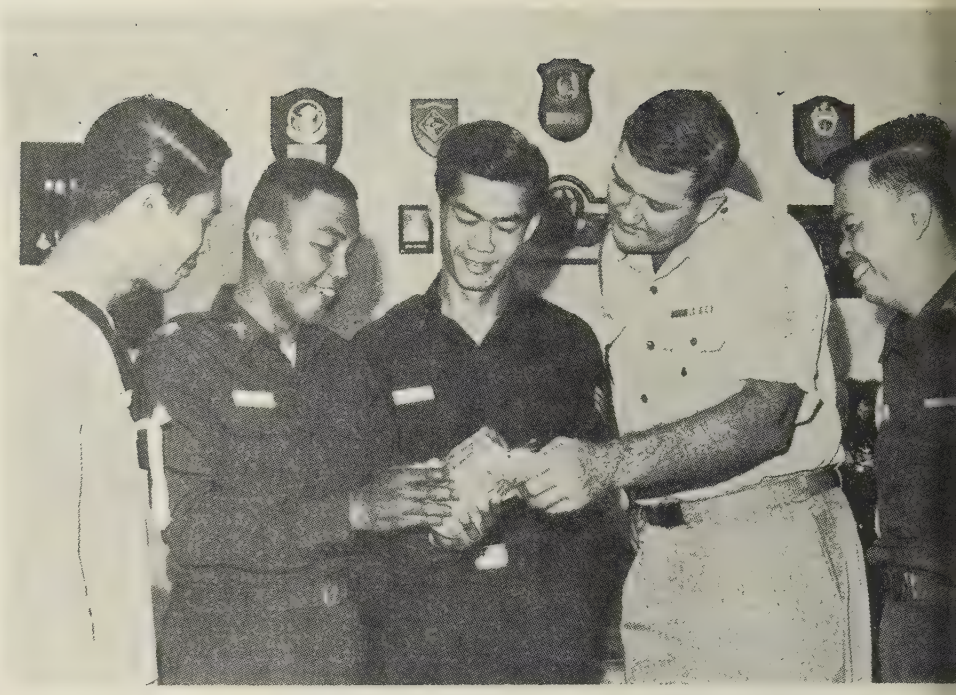
The five Philippine ogistic officers who sited Thailand on a four- y SEATO orientation sit are pictured here ing welcome to SEATO eadquarters by the Sec- tary-General, Lieut. en. Jesus Vargas.

KEEPING SEATO MOBILE

Colleagues bid farewell to transport NCO



ARRANGING transport for an organization such as SEATO is an unenviable task at the best of times. With only a limited number of vehicles available it is a daily headache trying to meet all the demands by staff for official cars to take them about their business.

That Master Sergeant Udom Phanurasmee succeeded with patience and tact in meeting all these demands as assistant Transport Officer for SEATO military staff is very much to his credit.

Consequently there will be many past and present members of the military planning office who will be sorry to learn that Master Sergeant Udom recently left the Organisation after serving as transport NCO for three and a half years.

Two members of the SEATO Military Planning Office about to leave at the end of their tour of duty recieved Certificates of Merit from Major General Autrey J. Maroun. They were Master Sgt. Udom Panurasmee and Sgt. Samniang Iamsa-ard. In addition Master Sergeant Udom received a tankard from members of the MPO. Here he shows the gift to Petty Officer Kanoksilp Suthilert, Sgt. Samniang, Staff Sgt. M. Fridolf (Australia) and Master Sgt. Narong Chomchart, the new Assistant Transport Officer.

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Born in Bangkok Master Sergeant Udom joined the Royal Thai Army 13 years ago in the Transportation Division. In 1964 he attended a transportation course in Maryland, USA, and also served for five years with the Joint United States Military Assistance Command Headquarters in Bangkok before joining the SEATO Military Planning Office.

Master Sergeant Udom is serving at the Royal Thai Supreme Command Headquarters prior to attending the Royal Thai Army Officers Training School early next year.

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Sgt. Udom is pictured here surrounded by colleagues and wellwishesr of the SEATO drivers' unit.

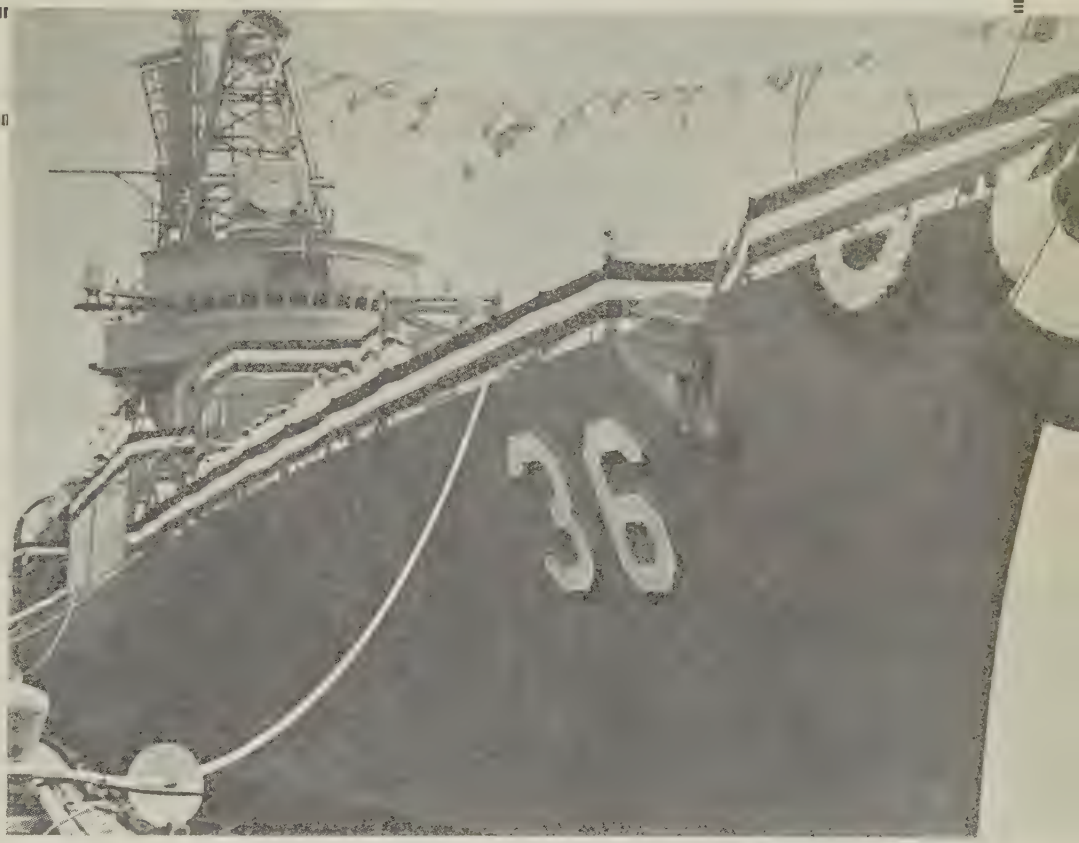
A MAN:

Admiral John S. McCain, Junior, is Commander-in-Chief, United States Pacific Command, and the U.S. Military Adviser to SEATO. He recently visited the naval dockyards at Philadelphia to attend the re-commissioning ceremonies of the guided missile destroyer named after his father, the late Admiral John McCain, Senior. Admiral McCain chairs the 31st Military Adviser's Conference being held at the end of October.

A SHIP:

The USS McCain as originally commissioned in October 1953. After serving in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans she was decommissioned in June, 1966 to undergo extensive modernisation, including the fitting of latest surface-to-air guided missiles and anti-submarine warfare weapons.

The newly commissioned vessel, under the command of Commander David N. Denton, USN, will be based at Long Beach, California, as a unit of Destroyer Squadron Nine.



A WARNING:

IT is not all that often that a man has the opportunity to speak at the commissioning of a warship named after his father. It is even more unique when the father and son in question both have the same initials and reached the rank of Admiral in the United States Navy.

Such were the circumstances, however, when Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., United States SEATO Military Adviser and Commander-in-Chief, United States Pacific Command, went to the Philadelphia

'WE MUST BE AWARE OF THE CONTINUING THREAT WHICH OUR COUNTRY FACES FROM THE AMBITIONS, GOALS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMUNIST WORLD. THIS IS A REAL THREAT AND THE STARK TRUTH IS THAT WE MUST RECOGNIZE IT IF THERE IS TO BE PEACE.'

Naval base, Pennsylvania, last month to give a presentation at the recommissioning ceremonies of the guided missile destroyer USS John S. McCain.

Admiral John S. McCain Sr., gained fame during World War Two as Commander of a fast carrier task force known as Task Force 38, in the Pacific. It was in almost continuous action, first of all spearheading the drive into the Philippines, then in support of the capture of Okinawa, and finally throughout the Pacific from the Indo-China coast to the Japanese home islands.

For heroism and great achievement in the Pacific during World War Two, Admiral McCain, Sr., was awarded the Navy Cross and Gold Star in lieu of the Second and Third Distinguished Service Medals.

In his address Admiral McCain said that it was appropriate to underscore his father's pioneering concept of the fast task force. It was a new era for naval warfare. It marked a radical departure from known naval strategy and tactics.

"For almost a quarter-century," he said, "the highly mobile task force has been an important arm of U. S. foreign policy."

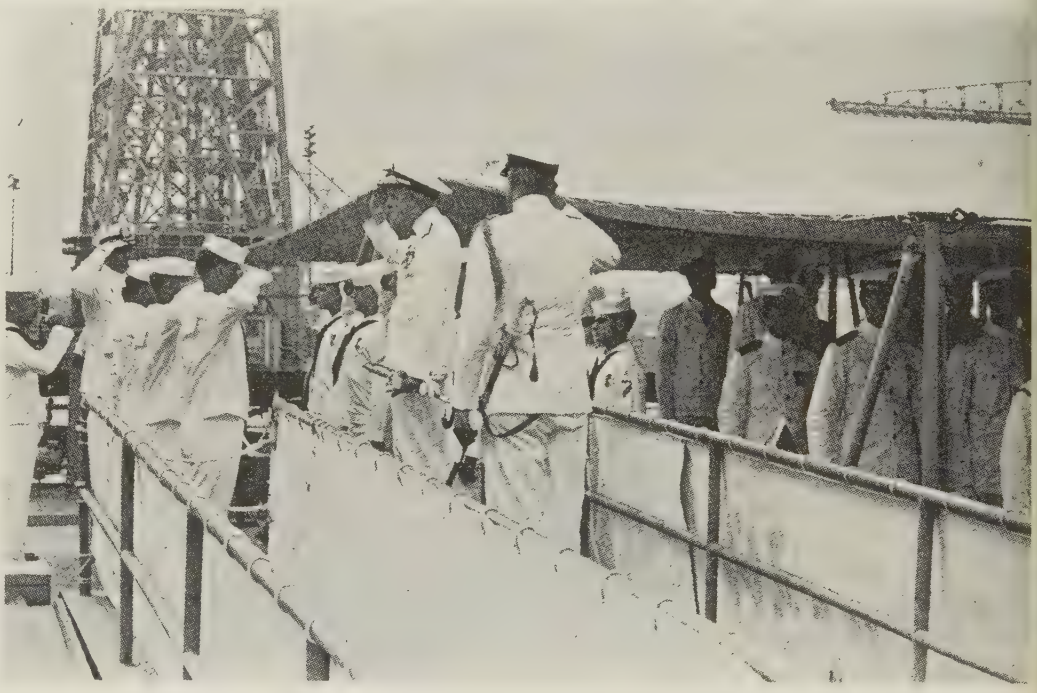
He said that the ceremony was related to a subject that should be of the most direct concern to every American. That topic was the threat of aggressive communism as it affects the peace of the world and American national security.

"We must be aware of the continuing threat which our country faces from the ambitions, goals, and activities of the Communist world. This is a real threat and the stark truth is that we must recognize it if there is to be peace. Only a firm, positive posture on our part, backed by adequate military capabilities, can assure the security of this country, and with it, that of the Free World."

"The greatest safeguard to contain such flare-ups is to provide the strong and constant influence of our deterrent capability," said Admiral McCain. "This has required a combination of well-balanced forces of all our military services—because no longer in the world can you divorce a problem in one area from a problem that exists in other areas.

"Utter disregard and disdain for the rights of others by the Communist leadership is nowhere more apparent than in the trouble spots of South-East Asia."

Admiral McCain also gave warning of the continued growth of Soviet military offensive capability.



Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., Commander in Chief Pacific, and U.S. Military Adviser to SEATO, is pictured here being piped aboard the guided missile destroyer John S. McCain at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard to take part in recommissioning ceremonies. The ship is named in honor of Admiral McCain's late father.

"The free trade that is the lifeblood of Asian ports," he added, "is vital to us as members of the Pacific Community of nations. To protect this free trade, we are allied with eight nations in the South-East Asia Treaty Organization. We firmly believe that the steadily increasing trade relationships between free nations of Asia can only result in strengthening them against internal strife and externally-directed insurgency."

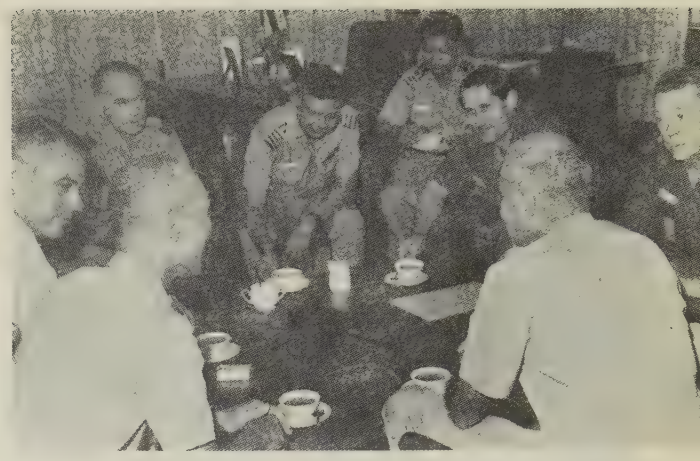
Admiral McCain said they must look beyond the end of the war in Vietnam, to the necessity of maintaining the peace and security of the Pacific Community of Free Nations through collective efforts. "I have no doubt that U.S. assistance will be required and will be forthcoming in Asia in the years ahead," he concluded.

SEATO communications meeting opens

FIFTY-FIVE delegates from six member nations recently attended the Twelfth Conference of the Communications Electronics Committee which was opened by the Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun at SEATO Headquarters.

The Committee meets annually to examine and up-date the communication elements of the SEATO defensive military plans.

In the picture key figures in the Committee meet with Major General Maroun informally. From left to right are: Col. Virgilio G. Hipolito, (Philippines Chief Delegate); Lieut. Col. D. G. Robinson (United States); Wing Commander J.P. Conyers-Brown (New Zealand Chief Delegate and Chairman for the Conference); Capt. Siri Sirirangsi (Thailand Chief Delegate); Commander Su-Ed Chantrakka (MPO); Major M. Allen (United Kingdom), General Maroun, Lieut. Col. J. H. Marsh (Australian Chief Delegate); and Lieut. Col. H. F. Frailey (MPO, the Conference Co-ordinator).



ITEMS IN BRIEF

The 31st Conference of the Military Advisers of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization is being held in Bangkok on 30-31 October.

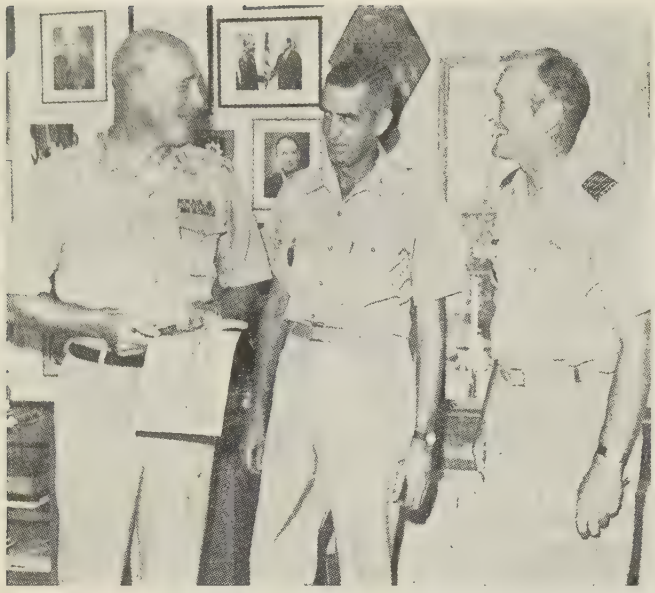
Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., Military Adviser for the United States and United States Commander in-Chief, Pacific, will be Chairman of the Conference.

Other Military Advisers attending will be General Sir John Wilton, Chairman of the Australian Chiefs of Staff Committee; Major General R.B. Dawson, representing the New Zealand Military Adviser, Lieut. Gen. Sir Leonard Thornton; General Manuel T. Yan, Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines; Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, Chief of Staff, Supreme Command, Royal Thai Armed Forces; and Admiral Sir Peter Hill-Norton, United Kingdom Commander-in-Chief Far East.

Captain Ikramul Haq Malik, the Pakistan Military Adviser's Representative will attend the Conference as an observer.

The Military Advisers meet in formal session twice a year for consultation on the defence of the Treaty Area against the Communist threat. Their meetings also provide an opportunity to review and update the work of the SEATO Military Planning Office.

● Major General Autrey J. Maroun, Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, returned to duty this month after hospitalization in the United States. He is pictured above (left) making a call on Secretary-General Jesus Vargas, on his return to duty.



● Staff of the SEATO Military Planning Office have had a busy time over the past few weeks undertaking the pleasant task of welcoming new arrivals and the not so pleasant one of regretfully saying farewell to others who have been reposted at the end of their tours of duty at Headquarters.

One of those departing was Lieut. Col. E.P. Ford, U.S. Army, who has returned to America after two years service in the Logistics planning division of the SEATO Military Planning Office.

In the picture above Colonel Ford talks with Colonel J.C. Stanfield, USMC, (centre), the United States Military Adviser's Representative, and Group Captain A. L. Parlane, RNZAF, the Head of Planning (right), after a ceremony at which he received a certificate of merit for his service with the SEATO Military Planning Office.

Meanwhile, Lieut. Col. Paul E. Riese, also of the United States Army, who succeds Lieut. Col. Ford, received a Legion of Merit for outstanding service in Vietnam from June 1968 to June 1969. The presentation is being made by Colonel Stanfield in the picture on the right.

Lieut. Col. Riese served in Vietnam at the Headquarters, US Army Transportation Command, and as Commanding Officer, 36th Transportation Battalion, 500th Transportation Group.

● In the picture below ¡Lieutenant Colonel K.J. Taylor, ARA, the Head of the Communications Electronic Division in the SEATO Military Planning Office, receives a Certificate of Merit from Captain Chob Sirodom, RTN, Acting Chief of the Military Planning Office, shortly before returning to Australia.

Other new arrivals over the past few weeks have been Lieut. Col. R.V. Cruz, of the Philippines; Lieut. Col L.D. McLean, of Australia; and Squadron. Ldr. Prayong Sawanbubbha of Thailand.

● Lieut. Col. G. Ripley, USMC, yet another departing member of SEATO's Military Staff at Headquarters, is pictured above receiving a silver tankard from Capt. Chob Sirodom, RTN, Deputy Chief of the Military Planning Office, at a farewell luncheon shortly before his return to the USA at the end of his tour of duty with SEATO.

IN MEMORIUM

Lady Jan Thornton, wife of the New Zealand Military Adviser to SEATO, has died in Wellington. She had been ill for several months.

Known for her indefatigable work in various welfare organizations, Lady Thornton held appointments in the YWCA, Red Cross Society and the women's section of the New Zealand Returned Services Association.

A message of sympathy sent by the Chief of the Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun, said that all those who had known Lady Thornton would remember her as a very warm and generous person.

● Thirty-one children of American sailors who died in the collision between the Australian aircraft carrier Melbourne and the U.S. destroyer Frank E. Evans during SEATO 'Exercise Sea-Spirit' will benefit from an educational trust fund set up largely from Australian donations, the Australian Navy Department has revealed. $33,000 has been contributed to the fund.

● Air Vice-Marshal C.T. Hannah, Chief of Air Staff Elect, of the Royal Australian Air Force, received briefings from the SEATO Military Planning Office recently during his two-day visit to Bangkok. He is pictured here being introduced to some of the military officers serving at SEATO. Others in the photograph are, left to right: Lieut. Col. H.F. Frailey,

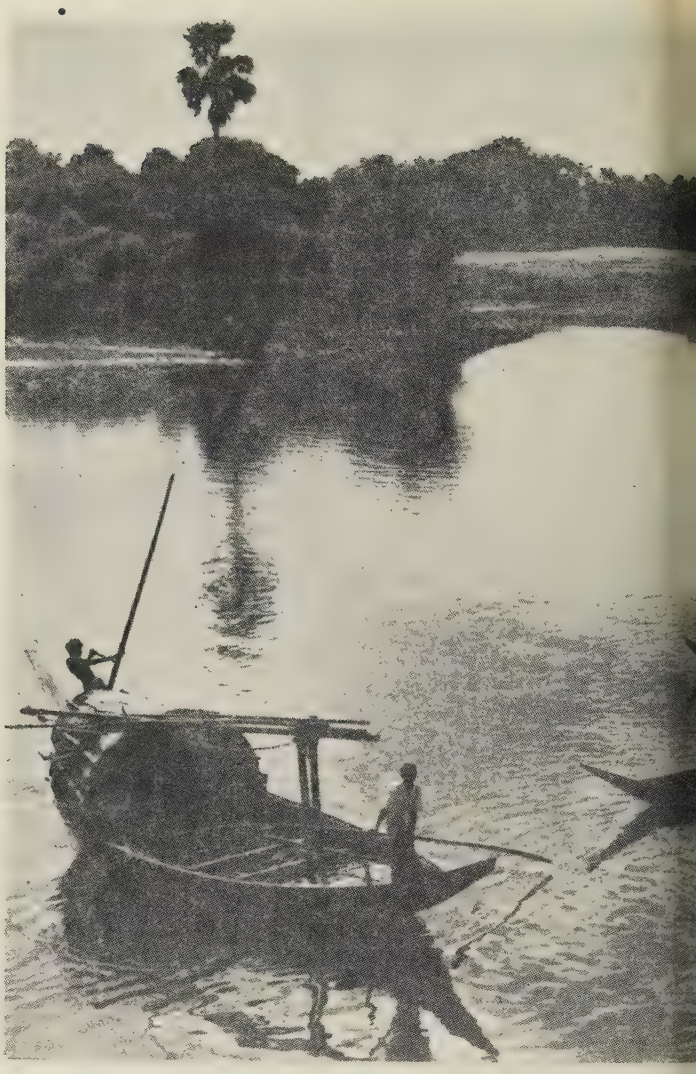
United States; Lieut. Col. R.K. Porter, New Zealand; Lieut. Col. R.H. Stafford, United Kingdom; Lieut. Col. F.F. Velasquez, Philippines; and Lieut. Col. P.W. Joplin, New Zealand.

During his visit to Thailand Air Vice-Marshal Hannah also called on the Chief of Staff, Supreme Command Headquarters, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Boonchoo Chandrubeksa at Headquarters RTAF, Don Muang.

● Three Brigadiers are included among the 53 officers from SEATO member nations who will attend a SEATO Orientation Course in Thailand between November 3 and 10. They are Brigadiers R. Worsley and P. Whitley of the United Kingdom and Brigadier R.M. Gurr of New Zealand.

THE SONG OF THE BOATMAN...

Life on the rivers of East Pakistan



BY
SYAD ASHRAF ALI

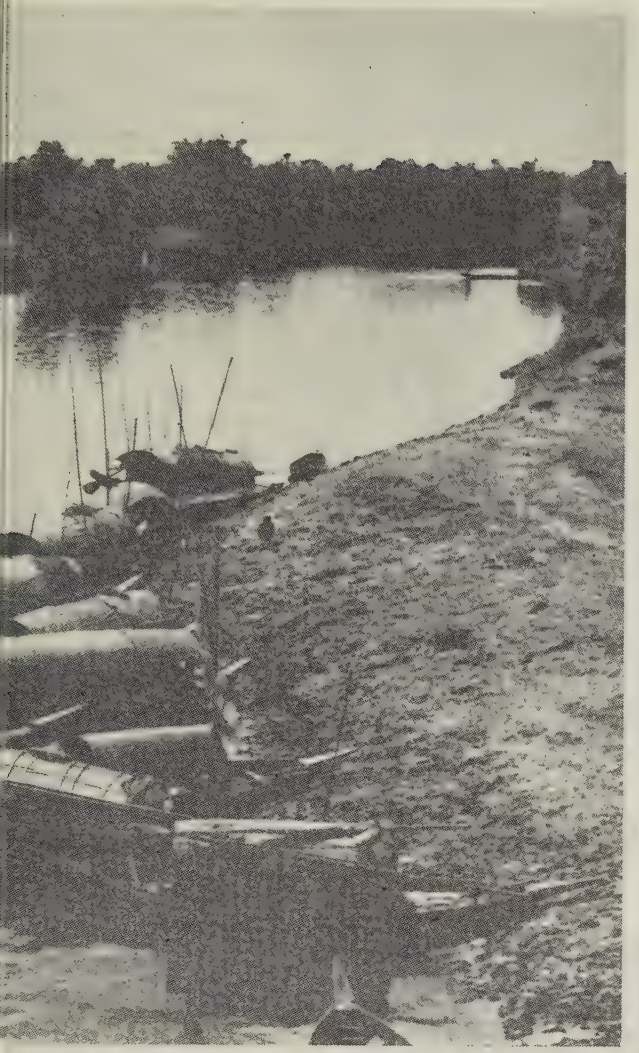
IF you fly over East Pakistan in order to go to Dacca you will see an ever green land with winding rivers and rivulets dotted with boats, some with sails of many colours.

Whether you come in winter or in summer or in the monsoon season you will get the same picture. Only during the monsoon the whole country seems to be a huge sea with villages or hutments or clusters of houses with surrounding greenery looking like floating islands. Consequently, it is not possible to go from one house to the other without the help of boats. Each family has to have a boat.

But these are not large boats. As for nearly five months—from June to October—the rivers are full, the rice fields are flooded and the houses are on islands, anyone going to the market or to a relative's house or to the motor launch needs a boat. Moreover, as it may rain at any time, he needs a covered boat.

A boatman is therefore a very useful person. He is likely to remain so not merely for this type of private business but for commercial purposes. Large, wide and deep boats are used to carry earthenware, wood, mangoes, rice and such other goods from one part of the country to the other. Long, fast-running boats ply at night carrying passengers from cities to villages, specially from Dacca to the villages. Boatmen are employed by those who run such businesses.

All boatmen are not capable of doing all the different kinds of technical work that a boat requires. For example, a boatman may be good at using the bamboo-poles which he pushes into the river bed in order to push the boat forward or backward. He of course knows how to handle the oars and even be at the helm. But he may fail to manage the helm when



A typical river scene in East Pakistan. The small covered boats are called Panshis and are more commonly seen on the country's waterways than other kinds of vessels. They are general-purpose craft and are used either as ferries or for carrying cargoes.

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ıe boat is in such a big, rushing river as the Padma. Ie is therefore not entrusted with that work.

The man who can be entrusted with such work ets better pay and is regarded as the master boatman ıd the captain of the boat.

The life of a boatman is a life of hardship and y. He leads a very hard life because he has to ght constantly with the winds and rains and the vift currents of rushing rivers. He must know the technique of weathering the storms. A good boatman has an uncanny way of knowing what the weather will be like. He knows, loves and dreads the big rivers and behaves accordingly.

He is also in love with the rhythm and beauty of the widely expansive rivers and the dark nights and the moonlit landscape. He has thus invented a rhythm for a kind of song known as Bhatiali songs.

At midnight, when the weather is calm, the moon shining and nothing but the sound of the rippling waves through which the boat is passing is heard, he suddenly bursts into song. The long rhythmic flow of that song enchants the atmosphere and he forgets all miseries and hardships in his semi-mystical response.

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These high-powered launches are being used to help float logs of Geva wood down the river to a newsprint factory at Khulna.

The U.S. Consul-General in East Pakistan, Mr. Leslie A. Squires, is pictured here (left) presenting award pins and long service certificate to 57 Pakistani employees of the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory in Dacca. During its ten years of research and treatment, the laboratory has saved thousands of Pakistanis from death by cholera. From left to right in rear are Mr. Squires; the laboratory Director, Dr. Robert A. Phillips; and Charles A. McGinley, Cultural Affairs Officer, USIS, Dacca.

VICTORY AGAINST CHOLERA ANOTHER STEP NEARER

THE significant place established by the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory in the life of East Pakistan was illustrated on SEATO Day when 57 Pakistani employees received awards testifying to five or more years of service with the Organization.

SEATO has been engaged in cholera research for the past ten years, one third of its existence.

A cholera epidemic in Thailand in 1958 demonstrated once again that the war was still a long way from being won against this ancient disease which, in some parts of Asia at least, still constitutes an ever-present threat. At its annual meeting in New Zealand in April 1959 the SEATO Council discussed ways in which the Organization might lend its resources to help bring victory a little nearer.

As a result of that meeting the SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory was set up at the Army Institute of Patholgy in Bangkok in December 1959 under the joint sponsorship of the Royal Thai Government and the US National Institutes of Health.

Joint studies by Thai and American teams on the epidemiology and other aspects of cholera got swiftly underway early in 1960 just as the second wave of the epidemic reached its height in Thailand.

A year later, with the disappearance of cholera from Bangkok, it was decided to expand the Laboratory to cover other important tropical diseases such as malaria and transfer the main research work on cholera to East Pakistan, where the disease is present virtually throughout the year.

The Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory was set up in Dacca and inaugurated in December 1960. Jointly sponsored by the Pakistan Government, the United States Agency for International Development, the US National Institutes of Health, and the South-East Asian Treaty Organization, it has as Director the eminent Dr. Robert A. Phillips, winner

the Albert Lasker Award in 1967 for his "enormous ntribution to the understanding of the mechanism death in cholera, and the development of a life- ving method of treating it," as the citation stated.

This is the method of replacing the loss of body uids in cholera patients by a simple single-solution eatment evolved by Dr. Phillips and his staff.

Broadly speaking, the Pakistan-SEATO Labo- tory has a two-fold mission: to evaluate the effec- veness of cholera vaccines, both in current use and ny new ones to be developed; and to learn more about ie nature of the disease and its effects on the human ody, so that prevention and treatment can be further nproved.

About half of Dr. Phillips' staff do their research ork in the laboratory proper which is located in Iohakhali, a suberb of Dacca.

The remainder are some 40 miles away engaged cholera vaccine trials in Comilla District and in perating a cholera treatment centre at Matlab Bazar.

The vaccine trials have involved the whole opulation of 120,000 in a rural area of Comilla and aily hosue-to-house surveillance have shown that the tandard cholera vaccine provides 85 per cent protection or a period of about three months. "These studies," Dr. Phillips stressed in his Albert Lasker lecture in New York, "point up he need for developing a accine with a much onger effective life."

More recently, in n interview with K.Z. Ahmed, published last August in the Observer Sunday Magazine, Dr. Phillips said: "For a accine to be effective in he control or eradication f cholera, it would have o be more than 90 per ent effective and provide rotection for at least two ears. Under the present ircumstances, it is obvi- usly impossible to vac- inate 70 million people n East Pakistan four imes a year."

And this is one of he declared aims of the akistan-SEATO Lab- oratory: to continue field vaccine trials in an attempt to find one which will have a sustained effectiveness of 95 per cent and of a longer-lasting protective power.

In the meantime its cholera treatment centre at Matlab Bazar continues to save lives. Using high speed motor boats as ambulances patients in the study area can be brought to the centre within two hours and the mortality rate of over 60 per cent in formerly untreated cases has been reduced to less than one per cent.

At the long service award ceremony Dr. Phillip also pointed out in an informal talk that one of the laboratory's most significant scientific and public health achievements had been the demonstration of the effectiveness of oral therapy for cholera. This development augured well for the wide extension of effective therapy in countries afflicted by cholera at a much more modest cost in terms of personnel and material than present methods.

Dr. Phillips said that there were other SEATO aid projects as equally important but probably not so well known in Pakistan. He said that SEATO projects had now come to cover such diverse fields as medical and public health, skilled labour training and higher engineering studies, aeronautical and meteorological communication facilities, community development, hilltribes development and agricultural research.

ITEMS IN BRIEF

Information Director leaves

After nearly three years as SEATO Director of Public Information, Mr. W.W. Copeland left Bangkok early last month on posting to the United States.

Mr. Copeland arrived in Bangkok to take up his SEATO assignment in December 1966, bringing with him a hard-to-match experience of the newspaper world and public information work.

A graduate of the University of Missouri, he worked for 24 years as a reporter, foreign correspondent and news agency manager in South America before joining the United States Information Agency in 1955.

He has served as Public Affairs Officer in Manila, Madrid and Tokyo, and has been USIA Director, Far East, and Director of Press and Publications Service.

Before joining SEATO Mr. Copeland was the senior USIA member of General Maxwell Taylor's Committee on Counter Insurgency and USIA Liaison Officer with the Department of Defense.

Mr. Copeland is pictured here sharing a joke with SEATO Secretary-General, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas, shortly before his departure for the United States.

Trainee reports on SEATO

Having lived away from South-East Asia off and on for half of her life, 21-year-old Monthira Khoman, younger daughter of Thailand's Foreign Minister, decided to get acquainted with aspects of it from the SEATO angle. She has recently spent six weeks attending the SEATO internship programme designed for young people interested in how the Organization works. Her evaluation report contained some very useful suggestions for improving and expanding the Organization's activities. She is pictured here (right) chatting to members of the SEATO secretarial staff. Monthira graduated from Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts, last June. She has now left Bangkok for further study in Paris

Pakistan T.V. expert joins SEATO

Shown here getting together with Dr. Witt Sivasariyanon (left), Managing Director of Thai T.V., is Mr. Sayed Razi Tirmazi, recently arrived from Pakistan to take up his duties as SEATO Assistant Radio-TV Officer.

A graduate of Punjab University, Lahore, and well-known Urdu poet and playwright, Mr. Tirmazi was among the founders of Pakistan Television.

He has studied television production and techniques in Japan and held the post of Programme Manager for Pakistan Television at the time he was assigned to SEATO. Mr. Tirmazi is accompanied by his wife and three daughters.

CENTO electronics course

Maintenance and repair of scientific electronic instruments was the subject of short practical courses held in Tehran and Karachi between September 14 and October 22.

Lectures were given by three experts: Mr. D.R. Cockbaine, CENTO Electronics Adviser to the Turkish Atomic Energy Commission; Dr. Ciancaglini of the International Atomic Energy Agency; and Mr. Maynard Eicher of the Naval Medical Research Institute, Bethesha, Maryland, U.S.A.

The primary objective of the course was to train graduate engineers in charge of electronic equipment to the degree of being able to instruct their technicians in a wide range of electronic instruments. The lectures and laboratory work covered nuclear and reactor instrumentation, including medical isotope scanners, spectrometres and geophysics instruments.

Termed the CENTO Study Institute in Maintenance and Repair of Scientific Electronic Instruments, the course formed part of the activities of CENTO's Council for Scientific Education and Research.

Scholar back from Pakistan

Recently returned from the University of Peshawar, West Pakistan, with a newly-earned master's degree in Archaeology, SEATO

Scholar Weerapan Maleipan is pictured below being congratulated by SEATO Secretary-General Jesus Vargas.

Looking on is Mr. S.M.H. Rizvi, Director of the SEATO Office of Cultural and Economic Affairs.

Mr. Weerapan was awarded the SEATO Post-Graduate Scholarship in 1967. Upon his return to Thailand he has been appointed a lecturer at his old university, Silpakorn.

Lectures on the increase

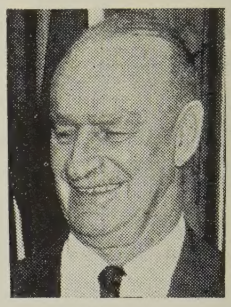
The auditorium at SEATO Headquarters has been put to good use as a centre for information dissemination and interchange of ideas during the past months. Not only SEATO personnel but government officials, members of the Armed Services and the international community have been attending lectures sponsored by the Organization. The lectures have been by well-known experts in their fields and the topics have ranged from the Chinese position in world affairs to mass communications and trade opportunities for developing countries.

The last lecture was given by Dr. Warren Hunsberger, Professor of Economics from the American University, Washington, D.C.

Defence VIP visits SEATO

Members of the Australian Armed Forces serving at the SEATO Military Planning Office met Sir Henry Bland, Secretary of the Australian Department of Defence, while on a recent two-day visit to Thailand. In the picture below Wing Commander R.E. Cox, RAAF meets Sir Henry. Others in the photograph from left to right are: Staff Sgt. J. R.E. Allman, ARA; Cdr. R.J. Tulip, RAN; Lieut. Col. K.J. Fleming, RAAMC; Staff Sgt. M.J. Fridolf, ARA; and Chief, Petty Officer, R.K. Josey, RAN.

SIR STEPHEN WEIR — CHAMPION OF ALL THAT SEATO STANDS FOR



"In the death of Major General Sir Stephen Weir of New Zealand we mourn not only the loss of a great soldier and diplomat but a true champion of democracy," said the Secretary-General of SEATO, Lieut. Gen. Jesus Vargas, in a message sent to the New Zealand Government on behalf of the SEATO Secretariat-General.

"Sir Stephen's distinguished military career extended over a period of 34 years including six years from 1955 to 1961 as New Zealand's Military Adviser to SEATO. His expert contribution during the initial phases of the building up of the Organization's defensive shield against Communist aggression was significant," Gen. Vargas added.

For the next six years, as New Zealand's Ambassador to Thailand and his country's SEATO Council Representative, Sir Stephen continued to play a vital role in the political, social aud economic activities of SEATO.

General Vargas pointed out that Sir Stephen was one of the first to recognize the threat of Communist expansion in South-East Asia. His efforts, both militarily and diplomatically, to ensure that the emerging Asian nations should be free to develop without outside pressures were outstanding.

"Since his return to New Zealand in 1967," said General Vargas, "Sir Stephen had continued to champion the cause of freedom in every way possible, including extensive lecture tours throughout his homeland."